



#### 'Arab states to work with Cuba against U.S. influence'

HAVANA (R) — Syria, Iran, Libya and Tunisia agreed with Cuba on the need to coordinate policies to counter U.S. dominance in the world, a senior Cuban official was quoted as saying on Monday. Vice-President Jose Ramon Fernandez, just back from a two-week tour of those countries, told the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina that their governments greatly admired Cuban President Fidel Castro and Cuba's current stance in world politics. Mr. Fernandez's principal mission had been to deliver messages from Mr. Castro to the presidents of Syria, Iran, Libya and Tunisia and to the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Yasser Arafat, Prensa Latina said. The report did not spell out the content of the messages but said that during Mr. Fernandez's meetings with the leaders "the opinion that prevailed was that it was vital today for the Third World to coordinate positions to face the current situation, which only favours the interests of a single superpower."

# Jordan Times

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#### Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan join Islamic trade pact

NICOSIA (AP) — The Economic Cooperation Council, a grouping trying to mold an Islamic market, admitted the former Soviet republics of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to the alliance before ending a two-day meeting in Tehran Monday. The Islamic Republic news agency said a statement winding up the talks welcomed the expansion of the alliance to eight members. Iran, Pakistan and Turkey founded ECO in 1985. Earlier this month, they admitted Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan into the league. Kazakhstan, which attended the meeting as an observer, remained the only one of the six Muslim republics of the former Soviet Union without formal membership in ECO. It was not clear why, but observers noted that Kazakhstan's population of 16.4 million is only half Muslim. The statement carried by IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said ECO hoped "member countries can take substantial steps to strengthen the organisation." However, it gave no indication as to what progress, if any, was made toward the creation of a common market which the founding ECO members aspire for.

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#### King cables Jawara

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable to Gambian President Dawda Jawara to congratulate him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on his country's national day. King Hussein wished Mr. Jawara good health and the Gambian people further progress and prosperity.

#### Ordenez criticises EC role in Mideast

MADRID (R) — Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordenez said on Monday the European Community (EC) was not playing a strong enough role in efforts to end the Middle East conflict. "The EC should rethink what it could do. It is Israel's biggest customer, it is a group of countries which has notable influence in the region but which nevertheless is not playing the role it should play in this crisis," he told reporters.

#### Bhutto lands denied irrigation

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani provincial authorities have turned off irrigation water to the family lands of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto to try to intimidate her, opposition deputies told parliament on Monday. Ten deputies made the complaint in the National Assembly (lower house), saying the authorities had stopped water to the farmland of Ms. Bhutto and her mother Nusrat in their home province of Sindh since last December. "The Sindh government has started to threaten and intimidate the leader of the opposition by this way," deputy Itikhar Hussain Gillani said.

#### Klimova, Ponomarenko earn Olympic gold

ALBANY (R) — Russians Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko earned the ecstasy of Olympic glory and foiled the French Duchesneys by capturing the ice dancing gold medal Monday. Four years after winning silver at the 1988 games, Klimova and her husband took that giant step to the summit of the podium to leave the hugely popular French sister and brother disappointed in second place. Maia Usvova and Alexander Zhulin, took the bronze medal.

#### Non-aligned summit set for Sept. 3-6

JAKARTA (R) — The 101-member Non-Aligned Movement will hold its summit in Jakarta from Sept. 3-6, diplomatic sources said on Monday. They said a foreign ministers' meeting would be held in the first week of May in Jakarta formally to announce the dates for the summit and to work out its broad agenda. Indonesia was selected last year to host the summit but is already preparing to help run the movement.

#### No public hearing for Lockerbie suspects

TRIPOLI (R) — Two Libyans accused in the West of blowing up an American airliner will be questioned by a magistrate in private — not at a public hearing — on Tuesday, legal sources said. But they will be shown to reporters to prove they are neither missing nor dead, the sources said.

#### Turkish police detain 18 alleged rebels

ANKARA (R) — Police have caught 18 Kurdish separatists suspected of kidnapping 10 German tourists last August, a senior security official said on Monday. The suspects, captured in Ankara, were members of the rebel Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), and had been involved in six other armed attacks in southeast Turkey, said the official, who asked not to be named. He said the rebels, two of them women, confessed they had planned to attack police stations in Ankara, extort money from businessmen and kill an unnamed former minister.



The wreckage of the car which was carrying Sheikh Abbas Musawi after it was hit by Israeli helicopters on Sunday

## Hizbollah vows revenge; West urges restraint Lebanese, Israelis duel

Combined agency dispatches KATYUSHA rockets fired from Lebanon slammed into northern Israel but no one was hurt, Israeli security sources said early on Monday.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack which followed Israel's assassination of the chief of Lebanon's Hizbollah (party of God) in a helicopter ambush in southern Lebanon on Sunday.

The pro-Iranian Hizbollah had vowed to avenge the killing of Sheikh Abbas Musawi, his wife and six-year-old son. Western diplomats said the killings would probably trigger an escalation of Hizbollah attacks on Israeli targets.

The United States was worried about the effect on Middle East peace talks of a bloody weekend that began with an Arab attack on an Israeli army camp. Talks are due to resume in Washington on Feb. 24.

In Beirut, a new underground Muslim fundamentalist group called on Monday for the killing of

an Israeli prisoner in revenge for Israel's assassination of Sheikh Musawi.

"In vengeance for the blessed

blood of Sheikh Abbas Musawi, we demand the captors of the

(Continued on page 5)

### Abu Jaber: Israel aims at aborting peace process

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber said Monday Israeli raids on south Lebanon show once more the real intentions of Israel, particularly its desire to abort the Middle East peace process and to create conditions that might obstruct its development and success. Dr. Abu Jaber said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Israel aims through these raids to bring to failure the next round of talks due to start in Washington Feb. 24. This requires the co-sponsors of the Middle East peace conference, the United States and Russia, to exert strenuous efforts to confront such Israeli practices which endanger the whole peace process, the foreign minister said. He added that the positive Arab stand on the process is confronted with continued Israeli extremism and belligerence. This requires that the international community shoulder its responsibility in confronting such behaviours, he said. The Upper House of Parliament Monday issued a statement condemning Israeli raids on south Lebanon and Palestinian camps. The statement said these raids affirm Israel's insistence on its aggressive policy towards the Arab Nation, and proves that it is exploiting the peace process to gain time and build more settlements on the land of Palestine. "The Upper House condemns this savage aggression and calls on the government to contact its envoys to the Arab League, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the United Nations to coordinate and unify stands with member states of these bodies to condemn this aggression and support the stand of the Lebanese government which called for convening the Security Council," the statement said.

## Black Panthers claim responsibility for attack on Israeli camp, vow to avenge assassination of Musawi

JENIN, West Bank (Agencies) — Masked PLO activists who say they stabbed to death three soldiers in Israel vowed on Monday to kill more to avenge the assassination of a Lebanese Shiite leader by Israel.

Youths from the Black Panthers, an underground group affiliated with the mainstream Fateh faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), toured the West Bank town of Jenin, claiming responsibility for the weekend raid on a lightly guarded training camp in northern Israel.

They told residents they would carry out similar attacks in revenge for the killing of Abbas Musawi, head of the Lebanese Shiite group Hizbollah, who died in south Lebanon in an Israeli helicopter rocket on Sunday.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens has blamed Fateh for the soldiers' deaths. But Israeli officials said Sheikh Musawi's killing was not in revenge.

Troops and helicopters scoured the Jenin area, the Black Panther stronghold, for the third consecutive day on Monday hunting three attackers who hacked the soldiers to death at the camp 15 kilometres east of Jenin on Saturday.

Residents of Jenin, which has a population of 35,000, welcomed the attack on the camp and said it was a bold stroke for the Black Panthers.

"People are very happy (about the attack) because they are frustrated," a Jenin resident said. "They are frustrated the peace process is not going well. People

feel they will remain under occupation for a long, long time and that the Americans are not pressing the Israelis for concessions, only the Palestinians," he said.

"People think the more actions like this, the more pressure on the United States," another Jenin resident said.

Fateh, which backs current Middle East peace talks and enjoys wide support in the Jenin area, has issued a directive telling its supporters not to carry out armed attacks.

George-Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which opposes the peace talks, has claimed responsibility for most of a series of ambushes on Israelis in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since late October.

The Black Panthers, headed by Ahmad Awad Kmeil, 27, was formed in Nablus three years ago. Its centre moved to Jenin a year later after Israeli security forces virtually wiped out its Nablus leadership in a series of ambushes.

Its rank and file have an average age of 17. Youths covet acceptance in the group, but few make the cut.

The Israeli army said 20 Palestinians were arrested during the Jenin area sweep on Monday. The 180,000 Arabs living in the region were barred from travelling to Israel as well as to other parts of the West Bank.

Israeli troops imposed a curfew on villages surrounding Jenin immediately after the attack and

held up all males aged between 15 to 50 in village centres for eight hours on Saturday as they winnowed out suspects.

Most of those detainees were later released and the curfews lifted but soldiers remained posted at the village entrances on Monday. Arabeh village remained under curfew.

Monday's leaflet said the attack on the army base was carried out in revenge for the death of Mahdi Abdul Al Hassan, an activist fatally shot by soldiers late last year.

The attackers, aged 17, 23 and 32, planned the attack for two months, the leaflet said, without further identifying them.

They were accompanied by two other activists who waited on a hill outside the tent camp but never participated in the attack, the one-page leaflet added.

While the killings were carried out with knives, axes and a pitchfork, the leaflet said the attackers also had a pistol and an Uzi submachine gun.

Those who waited outside each carried a Soviet-made Kalashnikov rifle and four hand grenades, the leaflet added.

The youths "entered one of the tents in the camp and took three M-16s (rifles) and a Galil (rifle) while the soldiers were sleeping," and then killed three soldiers using their axes, knives and the pitchfork, the leaflet said.

They promptly fled "with the guns they took from the camp and blood stains on their clothing, never needing to fire a single bullet," it added.

## Prime minister details 7-point plan to combat unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday announced a seven-point plan designed to deal with the question of unemployment in the Kingdom and instructed government departments and ministries to abide by the plan and to put it into force within a fixed timetable.

Numerous attempts have been made so far to deal with the problem of unemployment at the level of the government and non-governmental social and economic institutions, but all attempts were not successful in the absence of drastic measures on the part of the government based on sound and practical basis to ensure economic development that would help stem unemployment, the prime minister said in a circular distributed to various ministries and public organisations.

One should not be satisfied with the mere analysis of the phenomena of unemployment to identify its type — structural or behavioural — the prime minister's circular read, but it is incumbent on the country to deal with the reasons behind unemployment in general, prior to taking specific steps to eliminate its causes especially in the economic, social and educational fields.

Following are major excerpts of the prime minister's circular:

Unemployment is a serious problem for Jordan as well as other countries of the world. The government is keen on

dealing with this issue, employing all available means, in a drive to find work for unemployed Jordanians.

It is therefore natural to concentrate on building a firm and sound basis for economic development, giving serious consideration to a series of immediate and speedy measures to contain the problem.

In dealing with this issue, the first step should be to provide an accurate definition of the job description of the competent government department responsible for employment, and for legislations related to it. This department requires a great deal of future planning and creative and continued efforts to deal with this chronic issue.

I believe that there has to be a re-organisation of the Ministry of Labour in terms of its responsibilities, its supervisory role over employment and plan regarding the country's workforce.

I look forward to a new, active and organised system for the Ministry of Labour in a space of one month. The new system should be able to cater to new developments, providing independent and efficient administrative practices within the ministry's framework.

I wish to see a completely modernised data system employed by the Ministry of Labour within a fixed timetable. To achieve that objective the ministry should benefit from data systems available to other government depart-



Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker

ments. This system should be able to prepare statistical information about unemployment and to classify and assess all information related to it within three months.

The second step is related to the organisation of the local labour market. This requires effective measures dealing with administrative and legal affairs related to non-Jordanian workers employed in the Kingdom. The country should have a full statement about the volume of non-Jordanian workforce in Jordan with a view to paving the ground for Jordanians to have priority in filling the vacant jobs.

I wish to see a reorganised local labour market taking place gradually and within a clear and well-prepared and applicable plan in a manner

that would not adversely affect the country's economic performance, especially in industry and agriculture.

The third step concerns the role of the Development and Employment Fund (DEF), which should be promoted in a very practical and flexible manner. The DEF should have the leading role in dealing with this chronic problem and, therefore, its board should embark on specific measures beyond its traditional framework.

The DEF is not a regular banking institution but it is rather an institution to promote socio-economic development in Jordan.

I believe that the DEF should clarify its objectives before the public through the media and should simplify its procedures to make its services available to all those who deserve assistance, especially in the rural regions where income-generating projects should be started. The DEF should also direct its attention to the rehabilitation and training of new graduates and should hold consultations with various sectors about small but productive schemes in cooperation with the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) and other concerned agencies.

The DEF should operate with the help of an efficient staff, to increase the fund's

(Continued on page 5)

## Pope, Reagan formed 'holy alliance'

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II put together a secret plot in 1982 to keep Poland's outlawed Solidarity union alive and destabilise Soviet control of Eastern Europe, Time magazine reported.

In an issue published Monday, Time said the "holy alliance" was agreed during a meeting at the Vatican on June 7, 1982, between Reagan and the Pope.

The alliance was part of a larger strategy aimed at bringing about the collapse of the Soviet economy, loosening the ties that bound the former Soviet Union to its client states in the Warsaw Pact and forcing reform inside the Soviet empire, Time said.

"Time said in a statement on Sunday that reporter Carl Bernstein spent several months interviewing more than 75 officials of the Reagan administration and the Vatican.

Solidarity, headed by Lech Walesa, now Poland's president, was outlawed under the declaration of martial law in Poland in 1981.

Mr. Reagan confirmed the alliance and told Time he and the Pope "both felt that a great mistake had been made (in the division of Europe) at Yalta (A world War II summit) and something should be done."

"Solidarity was the very weapon for bringing this about, because it was an organisation of the labourers of Poland."

The article said until Solidarity's legal status was restored in 1989, it flourished underground, supplied, nurtured and advised largely by the network established under the auspices of Mr. Reagan and the Pope.

A U.S. official familiar with the details of the plot told Time the alliance "didn't cause the fall of communism."

Neither Mr. Reagan or the Pope could anticipate the accession of a Soviet leader like Mikhail Gorbachev, whose reforms unleashed powerful forces that spun out of his control and led to the breakup of the Soviet Union.

But, the U.S. official said "like all great leaders, the Pope and the president exploited the forces of history to their own ends."

## Palestinian team due Wednesday

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace negotiations is to leave for Amman on Wednesday for preparatory talks with the Jordanian team, Palestinians said Monday.

Saeed Erekat, a member of the delegation, said the delegates would cross the King Hussein Bridge between Jordan and the Israeli-occupied West Bank if it is reopened.

The bridges over the Jordan River have been closed for the past week because of flooding following heavy rains and snow in the region.

Mr. Erekat said the Palestinian delegation would hold several meetings with Jordanian officials and with U.N. Relief and Works Agency, before leaving for Washington on Saturday. UNRWA supervises aid to Palestinian refugees.

The third round of U.S.-backed talks is to begin in Washington next Monday.

Mr. Erekat said the delegation would bring up the issue of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israel has launched a massive programme to build thousands of new

units in the settlements, greatly increasing the number of Jewish settlers over the next two years.

The territories, occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, are home to 1.7 million Palestinians. About 115,000 Jewish settlers currently live there.

"We just cannot move to any issue on the agenda before a total cessation of settlement activities," Mr. Erekat said. "Either settlements will continue, or the peace talks will continue."

The Palestinians have been represented by a 14-member team, backed by about the same number of advisers. Sources close to the delegation said there may be some changes in the team for this month's talks, but gave no new names.

#### Israel wants venue changed

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy said Monday Israel would attend Middle East talks in Washington next week but would insist on holding future negotiations closer to home.

"As far as Israel is concerned this is the last meeting in Washington," a parliamentary official quoted Mr. Levy as telling

the foreign affairs and defence committee.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker scheduled the resumption of peace talks for Feb. 24 so he could be in town to put pressure on the sides to agree on a future venue," Mr. Levy said.

Israeli officials said they expected the slow-moving talks would go ahead as planned in Washington next week.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government says it wants the U.S.-brokered talks, launched last October in Madrid, moved to Israel and Arab states in recognition of the Jewish state's right to exist.

Alternatively it wants the talks closer to home, perhaps in Europe, saying the proximity would ease contacts between the Israeli negotiators and their government.

Critics accused Mr. Shamir of wrangling over procedure to avoid negotiations the United States says should ultimately result in the return of the occupied land.

Mr. Shamir says Israel must cling to the land — the Golan Heights and the West Bank and Gaza Strip, home to 1.75 million Palestinians.

## Algeria opens prisons in Sahara, foreign minister tours Gulf

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — The military-backed government has opened five detention centres in the Sahara desert to hold Muslim fundamentalists during the state-of-emergency crackdown, a human rights activist was quoted as saying Monday.

Rezzag Bara, secretary-general of the Algerian League of Human Rights, told the daily Al Watan his independent organisation had been flooded with inquiries about people missing and feared detained.

The league has submitted a list of alleged abuses to Interior Minister Larbi Belkheir, claiming that some people were detained without being given a chance to get dressed or collect needed medications.

Mr. Bara said authorities had set up commissions in the detention camps to determine which detainees should be released promptly. He said some likely would be held for the duration of the 12-month emergency.

The government has not re-

leased comprehensive figures on numbers of detainees. Unofficial estimates range from several hundred to several thousand.

Most of those held are supporters of the Islamic Salvation Front, which was poised to take control of parliament until the new government cancelled elections in mid-January.

Authorities have arrested most of the front's top leaders, banned political activity in mosques and decreed a state of emergency that grants sweeping police powers to security forces.

Dozens of people have been killed in the past few weeks in clashes between fundamentalists and security forces. In the latest serious incident, two policemen were injured Sunday in the town of Baraki when attackers fired machine guns at their patrol.

No major violence was reported Monday, although the state radio said security forces fired warning shots to disperse about 300 pro-fundamentalist students demonstrating at the Uni-

versity of Algiers.

#### Ibrahimi in Kuwait

Meanwhile, Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Ibrahimi arrived in Kuwait on Monday for a two-day official visit.

The Kuwaiti news agency KUNA said Mr. Ibrahimi was on a Gulf tour to explain the crisis in Algeria.

KUNA quoted Mr. Ibrahimi, who arrived from neighbouring Saudi Arabia, as saying he hoped to meet the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, to "exchange views on issues of common concern."

Algeria has been mentioned as a possible mediator with Baghdad over Kuwaiti missing since the seven-month Iraqi occupation ended by last year's Gulf war.

The Algerian minister, who met with King Fahd during his visit to Saudi Arabia, will travel to the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday.



## Saddam's son emerges from shadows as father tightens ring

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saddam Hussein's youngest son, Qusai, is taking an increasingly important role in keeping his father in power as the Iraqi leader tightens his protective shield, diplomats and travellers from Iraq say.

Qusai, 26, has never held an official position in the Baghdad hierarchy or appeared to harbour any ambition. He has lived in the shadow of his swaggering elder brother, Uday.

Now Qusai heads the special security apparatus, command centre of Saddam's all-pervasive intelligence and internal security network, the sources said.

He also has been given command of a 10,000-man military force, drawn from the elite Republican Guard divisions, formed recently to protect Saddam, they reported.

"He's not as ruthless as others in Saddam's circle, but he's reliable and these days that counts for a lot with Saddam," said one Baghdad-based diplomat during a recent visit to Cyprus.

Like the other diplomats and travellers, he spoke on condition of anonymity.

By all accounts, Saddam's inner circle is increasingly wracked by internal feuding and the sources said Qusai has been sent

in to mediate in at least two quarrels between prominent Sunni Muslim clans.

The potentially most serious rift involves the Al Majids, Saddam's late father's clan, and the Al Ibrahimis, his stepfather's clan, to which his three half-brothers belong.

These two clans form the backbone of Saddam's regime and while it is difficult to determine what threat their feud might pose to Saddam, it appears to be serious.

Gunfights between the rival families have been reported. The sources said that in one Baghdad shootout, Ali Hassan Al Majid, one of Saddam's nephews, was killed by another nephew from Al Ibrahimis, Naimir Idham, a flamboyant captain in the president's bodyguard. Saddam reportedly ordered Naimir to be hanged, but it is not known if the execution was carried out.

Saddam has in recent months been putting close blood relatives into key positions, particularly in the intelligence and military sectors. This has raised speculation that he's growing suspicious of even long-time associates.

Saddam has long been paranoid about his security, and has

regularly purged his hierarchy and the military to prevent power blocs from emerging to threaten him.

But recent moves by U.S. President George Bush aimed at toppling Saddam, intensifying covert operations against him and sending CIA Director Robert Gates to coordinate action with Washington's Middle East allies appear to have heightened Saddam's insecurity.

Saddam has also reinstated generals who he had pushed aside because he feared they were becoming too popular, and thus a potential threat.

Among them is Maj. Gen. Maher Abdul Rashid, a hero of the 1980-88 war with Iran, who commanded the 3rd and 7th army corps in the southern front around Basra.

Qusai married Rashid's daughter in 1986, at the height of the general's fame. But they separated in 1988 and Rashid was ousted out of the army.

Saddam recalled him in March 1991 to help crush the post-Gulf war rebellions by Kurds and Shiite Muslims.

A few weeks ago, Saddam decorated Rashid with the highest order of "the mother of all battles" medal.

## Iraq bans sweet-making to save sugar

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq outlawed the manufacture of sweets on Monday to put the brakes on a runaway rise in the price of sugar and cooking oil.

The ban, imposed by trade ministry decree, was the latest sign of official concern at the effect of an embargo which U.S. President George Bush says is aimed at toppling Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The government supplies one third of every family's food needs at subsidised prices but Iraqis have to buy the balance on the free market, where prices are up to 18 times those charges by the government.

Babel, a newspaper owned by President Saddam's eldest son Uday, accused private traders on Monday of playing into Bush's hands by cashing in on shortages caused by sanctions.

"Destabilising the market and creating a sense of social instability is exactly what (our) enemies aim at," it said.

The decree, issued by Trade Minister Mohammed Mehdi Saleh, said the ban was designed to stabilise the price of ingredients used in making confectionery.

One kilogramme of sugar fetches nine dinars (\$2.8) on the free market, compared to a government price of 500 fils (\$1.6), unchanged since before the Gulf crisis.

The minister, to stamp out inflationary hoarding, also ordered confectioners to declare the amount of flour, sugar, powdered milk and other ingredients stocked in their warehouses.

"If you do not declare them, the ministry will be obliged to confiscate the material," Mehdi told the defence ministry daily Al Qadisiyah.

At the weekend the Ruling Revolution Command Council (RCC) decreed fines, confiscation of goods and imprisonment for traders cashing in on shortages.

Food and drugs are exempt from the U.N. sanctions, imposed in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Babel said many of the price rises in the markets and shops were the result of rumours.

Ten days ago prices surged because of rumours that the United States and its Gulf war allies were tightening the embargo by setting up checkpoints on the highway from Jordan to Baghdad, the main route for Iraqi imports.

## Eight anti-Iraqi Arab states to meet in Riyadh

CAIRO (R) — Eight Arab states which allied against Iraq in the Gulf crisis will meet in Riyadh next month to review plans for post-Gulf war security and economic cooperation, a Gulf official said on Monday.

The secretary-general of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Abdullah Bishara, said the eight foreign ministers would meet on March 11.

The ministers from Egypt, Syria and the GCC member states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — last met in Cairo in November without final agreement on cooperation plans.

Bishara, speaking to reporters after a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, said oil-rich GCC members have so far pledged \$6.5 billion towards a proposed Gulf fund to help less wealthy Arab states.

Bishara's assistant, Abdullah Al Quwat, said earlier this month that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait had each pledged \$2.5 billion and the UAE \$1.5 billion towards a \$10-billion fund approved by GCC leaders last December.

## Somali warlord says he will observe ceasefire

NAIROBI (R) — Somali warlord Mohammed Farah Aideded has said he will comply with a United Nations-brokered ceasefire between his forces and those of his arch-rival to end months of fighting in the capital Mogadishu.

In a radio Mogadishu report on Sunday, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, General Aideded said he was ready to implement the resolutions of the United Nations and other organisations in full.

In talks at the United Nations in New York on Friday, representatives of Gen. Aideded and his rival Ali Mahdi Mohammed, who came from different factions of the same clan, pledged an immediate end to fighting and agreed to sign a formal ceasefire by the end of the month.

Some 5,000 people are believed to have been killed and a further 12,000 wounded since warfare erupted last November between the two sides.

The radio Mogadishu report quoted Gen. Aideded as saying he was ready to host a peace conference in the capital and appealed to international organisations for more aid.

Gen. Aideded, military commander of the now virtually-defunct United Somali Congress

(USC), said he had appealed nine times for an unconditional ceasefire, but that "every appeal was rejected" the report said.

After USC fighters ended the 21-year rule of former dictator Mohammed Siad Barre just over one year ago, Ali Mahdi — a wealthy hotel owner who had bankrolled the guerrilla group — declared himself interim president.

Gen. Aideded, who seeks power himself, said the action broke agreements made in exile with other anti-Siad Barre groups in the north and south of the impoverished Horn of Africa country.

## Late emperor's body found buried in Mengistu's office

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — The remains of the late emperor Haile Selassie, who died under mysterious circumstances in 1975, have been found buried beneath the office of the man who overthrew him, according to Ethiopian radio.

Workers found Selassie's remains under former President Mengistu Haile Mariam's office at the Grand Palace — which was also the late emperor's residence — on the third day of digging, the state-run radio reported Sunday.

Ethiopia's interim government had approved the exhumation so Selassie could be ceremonially

buried in the presence of his family and the Mo'a Ambessa society, which seeks a restoration of the constitutional monarchy.

Selassie died in 1975 at the age of 83, a year after being overthrown by Mengistu and a cadre of army officers who replaced the centuries-old monarchy with a Marxist government.

The official explanation given at the time was that Selassie had died of illness. Mo'a Ambessa claims he was smothered with a pillow while sleeping.

Mengistu was himself toppled in a rebel takeover in May 1991. The radio report said Selassie's

remains were found buried in a hole three metres deep in a corner of the office.

It said the body was buried in secret on Aug. 27, 1975. Digging began after the police were tipped off by an officer who claims he buried the king, a palace engineer and the grave-digger.

"The reason why Mengistu chose this site was to see that the body did not rise from the dead," the radio added.

The remains were left in the hole and will be exhumed in the presence of his family before being escorted to church, the broadcast said.

## Algerians seek news of missing children

ALGIERS (R) — Distraught Algerians seeking news of their children and other people who have disappeared under a state of emergency are besieging the offices of the main human rights organisation, a human rights spokesman said on Monday.

The state of emergency was imposed on Feb. 9 to try to end Muslim fundamentalist unrest in which at least 50 people were killed and hundreds wounded.

Mohammad Boudiaf, head of the five-man presidency, told a news conference on Sunday the authorities could be holding between 5,000 and 6,000 people in special detention camps set up under the state of emergency.

Mohammad Rezzag-Bara, secretary general of the Algerian Human Rights League (LADH), said, "in recent days, we have been submerged both in Algiers and at local branches with calls, with requests, from citizens upset at not having news of relatives, friends and their children after arrest."

Most of the detainees are supporters or suspected sympathisers of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the fundamentalist movement which came close to winning parliamentary power last month.

The authorities cancelled the second round of voting and installed Boudiaf's high council of state.

Interior Minister Larbi Belkheir has told the LADH that the authorities have set up five

detention camps in southern Algeria, Rezzag-Bara said in an interview with the independent newspaper El Watan.

The authorities have not said where the camps are but the human rights spokesman said they could be in Timimoun, Adrar, Reggane and Ouargla.

The first three towns are in the Sahara on the main road to neighbouring Mali, between 860 and 1,130 kilometres south of Algiers. Ouargla is also in the desert, 400 kilometres southeast of the capital.

"He (Belkheir) announced to us the opening of five centres in the south in which people who are subject to administrative internment will be put," Rezzag-Bara added.

Scores of people have been reported jailed after the un-

rest, and the LADH spokesman said a distinction had to be made between these people and those detained without any judicial control.

The league had expressed anxiety over the way some arrests had apparently been carried out, he said. It had been told that in the eastern town of Setif the security forces took people away without giving them time to dress.

Sick people had not had time to take their medicines with them, according to reports the league received, he added.

"We insisted also on the fact that the state... had a duty to tell the public and the parents of those detained and arrested, to explain the reason for the arrests and indicate the places of detention," he said.

Other shadowy denizens of Delhi include Assadullah Sarwari, one of Najibullah's predecessors as chief of the Afghan secret police. He, like Kohistani, was on the wrong side of the coup attempt.

Royalists, Islamic fundamentalists and Najibullah supporters are equally vehement in denouncing Sarwari as one of the most treacherous players of the game.

Sarwari, who was packed off as ambassador to outer Mongolia in 1980 and later to South Yemen, tried to return home, via New Delhi, in time for the coup. He was deftly neutralised when an Afghan embassy staffer showed up at the airport and confiscated his passport before he could pass Indian immigration and board a flight to Kabul.

A few months later, while the Afghan foreign minister was visiting New Delhi, Indian police arrested Sarwari and charged him with not having a valid travel document.

Both friends and enemies say he lives under police guard as a man without a country who faces execution if he returns to Kabul.

## New Delhi: A chessboard for replaying 'the great game'

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — New Delhi, subjugated in bygone centuries by the kings of Kabul, now is a way station for the dreams and nightmares of Afghanistan.

Aspirations, plots, sometimes battles, turn up in the Indian capital, where thousands of Afghans have sought refuge from the 14-year-old war in their rugged homeland.

Most are simply fleeing the battle, but some have their own plans for Afghanistan's future and come here to escape the murderous vengeance of enemies and former allies.

It is the internal Afghan version of "the great game," a contest of intrigue and espionage played out by Britain and Russia during their 19th century quest for dominance in the vastness of central Asia.

The term is credited to one of the game's earliest practitioners, Capt. Arthur Conolly, who travelled among the Afghan tribes until he was captured and beheaded in 1842, across the Amu Darya River in Bukhara.

It was in India, however, that Rudyard Kipling immortalised the game in his novel "Kim,"

published in 1901. And it is to India that many of the Afghan players have come in the last decade of the 20th century.

Landlocked Afghanistan, a virtual pariah among nations, has increasingly tenuous travel links with the outside since the passing of the Soviet Union, its erstwhile sponsor.

Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi has joined the Khyber Pass as a conduit for the men who would be king, or president or dictator of Afghanistan.

There are royalists longing for the return of deposed monarch Zahir Shah, 77, who might be called "the king who never was" for his lackluster 40-year reign, and Islamic fundamentalists whose vision of the ideal Muslim nation would make that of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini seem decadent.

Increasing, the Afghan exiles include die-hard communists described by their opponents as thugs and torturers, who are not welcome in the new Moscow or in other capitals where communism has faded.

India, still trying to fit its traditionally non-aligned posture into

the new world order, is the only democracy that has retained full, cordial relations with Kabul since the communist coup in 1978.

New Delhi's constantly shifting population of Afghan numbers at least 9,600, according to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. It is the last outpost for both plotters and victims.

One was Khalilullah Kohistani, who died in January at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. In the tradition of the great game, his case is characterised by a bit of mystery and a dearth of facts.

Kohistani had been a deputy communications minister in the government of President Najibullah, who now disavows his communist roots. He was among scores of senior members of Najibullah's Watan (homeland) Party imprisoned after choosing the wrong side in a failed intraparty coup against the president in March 1990.

Afghans both for and against Najibullah say Kohistani was flown unconscious to New Delhi on Dec. 25. An Afghan known to have close ties to the coup plotters claimed Kohistani died of an infection caused by torture that

included pulling out his toenails. Hospital officials gave the cause of death as Septicemia stemming from advanced gangrene in one foot. A doctor who tended Kohistani said an Afghan embassy staffer told him the gangrene resulted from a botched operation on an ingrown toenail.

The doctor said, on condition of anonymity, that the foot was so disfigured it was impossible to say what had happened.

Ambassador Ahmad Sarwar of Afghanistan, whose wife's sister is married to Najibullah, said the torture allegation, "as far as I know, is absolutely wrong. Is it possible that somebody would be under torture and would be sent abroad?"

Yes, said the Afghan who made the allegation. He insisted that his name not be revealed.

Because of Najibullah's intricate balancing act between powerful friends and foes in Kabul, not all his enemies are in prison.

Some have considerable influence in his government and party. It is they who pressured Najibullah to send Kohistani to India for medical treatment, said the Afghan accuser, who lives in New

### JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Issue No. 3 Drawing of Feb. 17, 1992

Holder of ticket No. <b>44503</b> Wins JD 30,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 1,200 each wins JD 120 <b>44504 44513 44603 45503 54503</b> <b>44502 44593 44403 43503 34503</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>15829</b> Wins JD 7,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 700 each wins JD 70 <b>15820 15839 15929 14829 25829</b> <b>15828 15819 15729 14829 05829</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>65081</b> Wins JD 3,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40 <b>65082 65091 65181 64081 75081</b> <b>65080 65071 65981 64081 55081</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>54751</b> Wins JD 2,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 200 each wins JD 20 <b>54752 54761 54851 55751 64751</b> <b>54750 54741 54651 53751 44751</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>60460</b> Wins JD 1,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 150 each wins JD 15 <b>60461 60470 60560 61460 70460</b> <b>60469 60450 60360 69460 50460</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>13267</b> Wins JD 1,200	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 100 each wins JD 10 <b>13268 13277 13367 14267 23267</b> <b>13266 13257 13167 12267 03267</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>36685</b> Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 80 each wins JD 8 <b>36686 36695 36785 37685 46685</b> <b>36684 36675 36585 35685 26685</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>02394</b> Wins JD 800	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 70 each wins JD 7 <b>02395 02304 02494 03394 12394</b> <b>02393 02384 02294 01394 92394</b>

Ticket numbers <b>41531 78350 93977 39831</b> Win JD 200 each	Ticket numbers <b>37725 26988 57309</b> Win JD 100 each
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#### TICKETS ENDING WITH

<b>7338 0926 9784</b> Win JD 50 each	<b>6060 0176 9274</b> Win JD 20 each
<b>9103 0551 3603</b> Win JD 10 each	<b>6278 1275</b> Win JD 5 each
<b>1548 2243</b> Win JD 3 each	<b>658 316 410 346</b> Win JD 2 each

#### COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

50 covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in **923 884 368 382 354** Win JD 10

Winners of the grand prizes in the ordinary issue number 2 of Feb. 2, 1992

Shah Wali Half price JD 20,000	Zahed Ali Zaid Half price JD 20,000	Mohammed Ali Zaid Half price JD 20,000	Hassan Ali Zaid Half price JD 20,000	Mohammed Karim Half price JD 20,000	Mohammed Karim Half price JD 20,000	Mohammed Karim Half price JD 20,000	Mohammed Karim Half price JD 20,000
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Next Draw takes place on **March 2, 1992**

First biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters

### JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

#### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 72111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**

15:00	Bouli
15:30	Les Tortues Ninja
16:30	Marc de Sophie
19:00	News in French
19:15	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	News in Hebrew
21:00	Evening shade
21:10	Golden Years
22:00	News in English
22:30	G.B.H.

**PRAYER TIMES**

05:41	Fajr
06:52	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:50	Dhuhr
14:53	'Asr
17:28	Maghrib
18:38	'Isha

**CHURCHES**

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

#### Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 623366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 717151.

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811265.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 634932.

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

#### DEPARTS

3/11	Jordan Valley
13/20	Jordan Valley

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 65 per cent. Aqaba 40 per cent.

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:

Dr. Ghaleb Zaid	736123
Dr. Issam Al Ammar	890594
Dr. Saad Ali	788285
Dr. Hisham Kanaan	790286
Firas pharmacy	661912
Pedrows pharmacy	778336
Al Asasa pharmacy	637025
Nasrallah pharmacy	625672
Al Selam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shawesat pharmacy	637660

IRBID:

Dr. Mazen Charrabeh	(-)
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#### AL SHARAH pharmacy (275825)

ZARQA:

Dr. Samir Al Lawzi	(-)
Khalifah pharmacy	983417

#### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Rescue	199
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630221
Hotel Complaints	603800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	(-)
Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	787111
Telephone Information (Directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	(-)

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre	813613/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn	644281/6
Aklich Maternity, J. Amn	603441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642462
Mallas, J. Amman	626140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Musharraf Hospital	607227/9
The Islamic, Abadi	666127/1
Al-Ahli, Abadi	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	777101/3
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafich	751112/6
Army, Marfa	891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital	622403/0

#### AMAL Hospital (674155)

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)503560
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)987132
Al Hikma Modern Hospital	(09)999970

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital	(09)727555
Graha Catholic Hospital	(09)727225
Ibn Al-Nafis Hospital	(09)747108

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital	(09)514111
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#### FOR THE TRAVELLER

##### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)332004, where it should always be verified.

##### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:00	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
05:30	Aqaba (RJ)
06:25	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:20	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:35	New York, Montreal (RJ)
10:15	Frankfurt, Belgrade (RJ)
19:25	Tripoli (RJ)

##### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:10	Riyadh (SU)
19:35	Beirut (ME)
12:45	Bucharest (MS)

##### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:30	Aqaba (RJ)
10:30	Brussels, London (RJ)
10:00	Tripoli (RJ)
11:00	Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
11:30	Belgrade, Madrid (RJ)
11:30	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:45	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
11:50	Geneva, Paris (RJ)
20:20	Dubai, Bahrain (RJ)
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:15	Luxembourg (RJ)
21:15	Dumessac (RJ)

##### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:10	Riyadh (SU)
19:35	Beirut (ME)
12:45	Bucharest (MS)

#### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (red)	700 / 700
Apple (yellow)	500 / 500
Banana	500 / 450
Banana (Mekansar)	500 / 450
Beans	550 / 500
Carrot	700 / 650
Cabbage	180 / 120
Cauliflower	200 / 150
Cucumbers (large)	220 / 160
Cucumbers (small)	300 / 250
Eggplant	250 / 200
Garlic	650 / 550
Grapefruit	180 / 120
Lemon	180 / 120
Marrow (large)	300 / 250
Marrow (small)	300 / 250
Onion (dry)	400 / 350
Onion (green)	200 / 150
Orange	220 / 170
Pepper (hot)	420 / 320
Pepper (sweet)	1000 / 800
Potato	400 / 350
Radish	300 / 250
Sage	140 / 90
Spinach	600 / 500
Tomato	200 / 150
Tomato	280 / 220



## Attempt to ban alcohol in Kingdom lacks 'legal ground,' Mjali says

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An attempt by Islamists in the Lower House of Parliament to push for a revision of the law permitting alcohol to be made, sold and distributed in Jordan does not stand on firm legal ground, said a senior legal expert in the Lower House Monday.

A group of 33 Islamists and some independents who signed a petition asking for what amounts to a "ban on alcohol" in the Kingdom are scheduled to present a "draft suggestion" to alter the existing law to Parliament in the regular working session next Wednesday.

"The Legal Committee of the Lower House will present a 'suggestion' of altering the law to the Parliament soon," said

head of the Legal Committee, Irbid deputy Hussein Mjali. "The Parliament will vote on whether the suggestion is worthwhile and well-prepared. Should they decide that it is, they would need 42 yes votes, then it would be submitted to the government as a 'suggestion', not a draft law."

No draft law for the suggestion, said Mr. Mjali, who is considered the House's top legal expert, has been drawn up as of yet. The suggestion needs to be well-studied and thought out before it can stand a chance of being formed into a draft law, he said.

"There are legal problems because to change the law you have to first draw up a draft law, second an economic, legal, and religious study has to be made about the effects of banning alcohol," he explained.

Chances are that such a study will not turn out to be in favour of banning alcohol, says Mr. Mjali. The rights of those wishing to drink, whether Christian or Muslim must be respected by the law said Mr. Mjali, or else "we will cease to be a democracy."

Even in the times of the Prophet, said the jurist, Islam forbade alcohol but did not make it illegal.

The economic effects must speak in favour of banning liquor, said Mr. Mjali. Otherwise, there will be economic aspects which will make it's legalisation unacceptable.

The government has the option to return the suggestion to the House on grounds that it is not well-thought out and presented in terms of the economic, religious, legal and democratic consequences.



Hussein Mjali

Soothing anxieties of many fearing for the safety of their whisky bottles in the Kingdom, the jurist concluded that "the suggestion must be developed into a law that takes all these things into consideration and deals with them equitably otherwise this suggestion has no legal ground to stand on."

## Local firm awarded JD 650,000 contract to build two dams

AMMAN (J.T.) — A local construction firm was Monday awarded a contract to build two dams to collect more rain water for irrigation purposes in the dry season, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported Monday.

According to the agreement the two diversion dams will be completed in eight months. Work on the two diversion dams, which will together cost JD 650,000, is due to start early in March, according to Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) Secretary General Abdul Aziz Wishah, who signed the agreement.

The two diversion dams will be set up in Wadi Al Yabis and Wadi Kufuneh in the northern Jordan Valley region to help divert water from the wadis towards the King Abdullah canal in the valley below. Dr. Wishah said in a statement at the signing ceremony.

The building of the two diversion dams falls within the government's general plan to benefit from the flood water in the wadis, he said. During the current rainy season Jordan received more wa-

ter than it could handle and the JVA allowed part of the water collected in the dams to flow down the valley to the Jordan River and the Dead Sea.

The government has issued specific instructions lately for the construction of more dams to collect the water, which is needed for irrigation purposes.

According to Dr. Wishah, the two diversion dams can hold back water to feed the valley dams and subsequently to irrigate farmlands in the central Jordan Valley region and north Dead Sea area.

Since the start of the rainy season JVA, which is in charge of the water and the projects of the valley, has adopted a plan to achieve a balance between the incoming water from the rain and the total capacity of the dams in order to avoid any damage to the dams or the low lying agricultural farmlands, Dr. Wishah said.

The total capacity of the dams overlooking the valley is 110 million cubic metres and the dams became full early this winter thanks to the heavy rains and snow which fell, Dr. Wishah has said.

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), he had said.

Referring to the other dams in the valley, Dr. Wishah had said that Wadi Al Arab Dam is now full to capacity at 17 million cubic metres. The JVA has had to release some 800,000 cubic metres from that dam so far and the surplus water has run down the River Jordan.

Sharhabil Dam, which has a 3.9 million cubic metres capacity, is about 92 per cent full while the Wadi Shueib and Kafraim dams are full at 2.25 million and 3.5 million cubic metres of water, respectively. He had said the total amount of extra water released by the two dams is around 18.7 million cubic metres.

Dr. Wishah had also said in a statement earlier that with proper management of the available water in the dams the country can have enough water for irrigation for an additional year. Jordan has been hit by severe water shortages since 1989 and the drought had cut farm production by some 30 per cent last year.

## 1991 investments below expectations, official says

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry believes that investments made in Jordan in 1991 did not rise to the level of expectations and that only JD 70 million were invested in industrial projects.

Despite the opportune investment climate, the country's political stability and security as well as its central geographical location, investments last year failed to reach the aspired level, according to the chamber's director, Dr. Mohammad Halaiah. Noting that the total number of licences for new industrial projects last year amounted to 436 with a JD 70 million worth in capital, Dr. Halaiah said that an estimated JD 4 billion to JD 6 billion are deposited in banks with no one taking the risk of investing them in industrial or other projects.

Dr. Halaiah said that the economic situation in Jordan was still reeling under the negative effects of the Gulf crisis, discouraging many capital holders from investing in industrial schemes. He

attributed this discouragement to seven main reasons.

The first and foremost reason, he said, lies in the fact that Jordan's traditional export markets, especially Iraq remain closed before to Jordanian national products.

Second, there is lack of coordination between the public and the private sectors in working out investment packages that can lure Jordanian, Arab and foreign investors.

The third reason is the unpredictable economic conditions in the country and ill planned decisions which adversely affect the investment climate in the Kingdom.

Fourth, the absence of economic legislation that can cope with economic developments at the regional and international levels similar to those being undertaken by neighbouring Arab countries.

The fifth reason is in fact that investors in industry face the problem of having to pay heavy taxes. The industrial sector in Jordan pays up to JD 80 million in indirect taxes annually in addition to the income tax, a heavy burden which many industrial businesses have been complaining about, Dr. Halaiah said.

The sixth reason is that the industrial sector is in dire need of expertise which cannot be found in the local market and, therefore, there is a need for the government to facilitate the acquisition of such important factor for Jordanian industry, which can benefit from the transfer of modern technology and high level expertise.

Finally, the seventh reason is that industrialists complain of high interest rates on loans they need and feel that the high rates adversely affect their businesses, Dr. Halaiah said. He said that the banking system should reconsider the interest rates on loans to industrial businesses so as to help entrepreneurs embark on projects using the vast deposits now held at the banks.

Dr. Halaiah said that the government should establish a department concerned solely with economic affairs and to serve as a task force, paving the ground for investments and helping to finance development projects in the Kingdom.

Dr. Halaiah also said that the infrastructure in Jordan, the stable political situation in the Kingdom and the country's other incentives together with Jordan's bilateral agreements with other nations facilitating the flow of exports and imports, including that of the European Community countries, should provide sufficient incentive for investors.

In order to achieve the aspired goal, Dr. Halaiah said the government should speed up work on a new law for encouraging investments and another on promoting exports. He said should the government respond favourably to these requests, the industrial sector will probably make headway and the country would witness real industrial progress.

## Kabariti to seek cooperation, cohesion at meetings

AMMAN (J.T.) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti left for Cairo Monday saying he will discuss labour-related affairs and pan-Arab issues with Egyptian government leaders aimed at reviving inter-Arab cooperation at the highest level.

Mr. Kabariti said in a pre-departure statement that he was making the visit at the invitation of his Egyptian counterpart, Assem Abdul Haq, with whom he will discuss means of promoting Jordanian-Egyptian relations and cooperation in workers, social security and vocational training matters.

Discussions will also cover the process of organising the employment of workers in Egypt and Jordan, which employs thousands of Egyptian workers but which is facing a crucial economic situation in view of the return to the Kingdom of more than 300,000 expatriates following the Gulf crisis, said the minister.

Mr. Kabariti said he planned talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa and Arab League Secretary General Emad Abdul Meguid on ways of enhancing the role of the Arab League and restoring confidence in its agencies to resume joint Arab efforts and coordination in the face of challenges to the Arab Nation.

In a statement to the Jordan Times earlier this month, the minister said that Jordan's concern for maintaining special relations with Syria and the importance of the Egyptian role together serve as a beginning towards better coordination and deeper cooperation.

With reference to the ongoing Middle East peace talks, the minister said "in the coming phase of negotiations, I do not think that differences over multi-lateral talks will be cause of friction among Arab countries."

In his statement before leaving for Cairo, Mr. Kabariti said Jordan believes in disposing of the present prevailing mistrust which mars inter-Arab relations resulting from the Gulf crisis and in opting for collective Arab action. He said that lack of self-reliance can constitute a serious danger to all Arabs.



Abdul Karim Al Kabariti

## Committee to review agricultural production

AMMAN (J.T.) — The steering committee of the Mashreq Project, an agricultural plan which is financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the West Asia Regional Programme (WARP), will open a three-day meeting in Amman today to review the outcome of the past agricultural season and plans for the upcoming season.

The announcement was made by the Amman office of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), which is sponsoring the project in Syria, Jordan and Iraq. The project focuses attention on increased productivity of barley pasture and sheep in the critical rainfall zones of the three Arab countries with emphasis on the transfer of available technology to farmers, according to ICARDA officials.

Delegates representing UNDP, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the three Arab states will take part in the discussions, which will also cover a training programme for those involved in implementing the project. The delegates, according to ICARDA, will be making field trips to various parts of areas where the projects is being implemented in Jordan.

In its 1990 report, ICARDA said that the project in Jordan

and Syria resulted in grain yield increases ranging from 5 to 100 per cent. It said economic analyses showed that farmers' net return could be increased by 50 per cent.

A recommended package of practices for barley production was demonstrated in 17 farmer-managed trials in Jordan. The average increase in grain yield ranged from 40 to 70 per cent over that of farmers using standard practices, the ICARDA report said.

Established in 1977, ICARDA is governed by an independent board of trustees. Based at Aleppo, Syria, it is one of 16 centres supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, which is an international group of representatives of donor agencies, eminent agricultural scientists and institutional administrators from developed and developing countries who guide and support its work.

ICARDA focuses its research efforts on areas with dry summers and where precipitation in winter ranges from 200 to 600 mm. The centre has worldwide responsibility for the improvement of barley, lentil and beans. It also has regional responsibility in West Asia and North Africa for the improvement of wheat and pasture and forage crops and associated farming systems.

## 'Lettice and Lovage' — West End comedy comes to Jordan

By Nur Sadi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Lettice and Lovage," the award-winning West End comedy will be shown in Jordan this week as part of the last leg of a tour-country Middle East tour.

Written by Peter Shaffer, the London comedy differs from the usual touring satire in that it puts forth some thought provoking issues portrayed in a light refreshing manner. "The story is really about friendship," said Lynda Baron, the leading actress in the play. "It touches on other problems and other facets of life, but it is about friendship between two ladies who are unlikely friends at the beginning of the play."

Lettice Douffet, played by Ms. Baron, is fired from her job as tour guide because she lies. Being the daughter of an actress, Lettice has inherited both her theatricality and eccentricity and she begins to add her own imaginative fantasy to live up the dullness of the shabby stately home where she is employed. "I make up stories because of my job at a boring ancestral home and I get caught and fired," Ms. Baron said.

Lotte Schoen, the other character, is stern, very practical and very middle class. At the end of the play these two very different characters be-

come very good friends as they realise they share an interest in the past — historic figures and buildings.

The play, which originally opened in Bath, England, in 1987, was then transferred to the Globe Theatre in London's West End where it ran for three years. Thereafter, the play opened on Broadway and in 1988 it received the Evening Standard Award for best comedy.

Other characters of the play include a secretary, who is a very nervous lady and is bullied by her boss, and a solicitor who tries to defend Lettice. Lettice's telling of silly stories gets her into trouble and she is accused by the police of an "extremely silly" crime which she has not committed.

"The solicitor tries to defend me but I will not tell him anything and he gets really upset," Ms. Baron told the Jordan Times. "There is a moral to the story if you look for it but you can also just watch the play and laugh at it," Ms. Baron said.

The moral says that there is a lot to be learned from the past. Heritage, language, buildings and culture should not be lost to anyone. It should not disappear totally because modern times are exciting.

The play was performed in



Lynda Baron

London and New York as well as Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Dubai before coming to Jordan where it will be shown today.

Wednesday and Thursday at the Philadelphia Hotel.

This year is a busy year for Ms. Baron. Aside from "Lettice and Lovage," she will be involved in a musical and will be directing a comedy that will also tour the region.

"Having been here and seen the audiences and knowing the venues, it is easier for me to direct a play than a director who has never been to the Middle East," she said.

Ms. Baron originally made her name in the West End revue "One Over the Eight." She has also starred in "42nd Street" and "Little Me" in addition to a number of television shows such as "Doctor Who."

Other members of the cast include Yvonne D'alpra, who has played many leading roles at the Theatre Royal Stratford East in plays such as "The Taming of the Shrew." Her television credits include "The Professionals" and will soon be seen "In Sickness and in Health" in January.

Christine Furness played the leading role in "The Exorcism" and has recently been seen on BBC's "Crimewatch UK."

Nelson Ward, who plays the solicitor in "Lettice and Lovage," is currently also in "La Ronde" which is playing in London and acted the popular TV series "The Bill."

## Fortress renovation work continues

KARAK (Petra) — The Department of Antiquities has finished the first and second phases of renovation work at Al Karak Fortress.

The two stages, which were carried out in cooperation with the Natural Resources Authority, included renovating the eastern and southern sides of the fortress at a total cost of JD 400,000. Karak Antiquities Inspector Nabil Baga'in said the department last year completed renovation work in several parts of the fortress at a total cost of JD 100,000.

This year, Mr. Baga'in said, the department has commenced work in renovating the western side of the fortress to protect it from avalanches.

## Embassy changes non-immigrant visa application hours

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American embassy in Jordan has announced that the consulate will accept applications for non-immigrant visas only between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Non-immigrant visas applications include those for students, visitors and businessmen. An embassy spokesman said the move was an administrative temporary change to deal with the workload.

The consulate has a backlog of work. "The move does not reflect a change in requirements to obtain the visa or a restriction of the number of visas that will be issued by the embassy, the spokesman said. The embassy used to accept applications for non-immigrant visas five days a week.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Exhibition of oil and water colour paintings by Tete Wegelins, Lucy Marto, Hinda Bitar and Jennifer Bowker at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Spanish artist Saad Esheiri at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Shukir Hasan Al Said at Abdul Hameed Shomaa Foundation Gallery (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- ★ Exhibition of photographs on Goethe-Forest, between Tafleh and Shohak, at the Jordan University for Women.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "The Uprising in Cartoons" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Graphic art exhibition by Sadik Kwaish at Balaadna Art Gallery, Gardens Street — opening ceremony today at 6 p.m.

### THEATRE

- ★ Arabic play entitled "Who's There?" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ Italian film entitled "Il posto," shown as part of Italian Film Week, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:30 p.m.

## The Royal Society of Fine Arts

will hold an auction of works of art by famous Orientalists

to create it's own endowment fund at a dinner to be held at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts on Saturday, February 22, 1992, at 8 p.m.

\* Tickets: JD25 per person  
Sold at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
Established 1975

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## Don't fall in their trap

THERE IS no doubt that the leader of pro-Iranian Hizbollah Sheikh Abbas Musawi was murdered intentionally by Israel. When his motorcade was tailed and fired upon by two Israeli attack helicopters Sunday, the attackers knew that Musawi was in the car convoy that included also his wife and baby son and scores of assistants and bodyguards who were also killed. And by this premeditated helicopter attack on the leader of the Muslim fundamentalist group in Lebanon, the Israeli leaders sought to heighten the tension in the area and make even more possible the continuation of the dragging peace process.

It must have been part of the Israeli scheme that assumed that when orders were issued to pull the trigger on the spiritual leader of the Hizbollah group emotions would rise to new levels, rendering the overall political climate in the Middle East that more volatile and inappropriate for the perpetuation of the painstakingly arranged bilateral peace talks due to resume in Washington in a few days. This Israeli manipulation of events fits in well with its earlier pattern of behaviour that aimed to frustrate the U.S.-brokered peace initiative right from the start. It is an open secret that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir joined the U.S.-sponsored peace process rather reluctantly and has been relentlessly putting one obstacle after another in its path ever since it was launched in the fall of last year.

It is quite possible, if not outright probable, that Shamir was also targeting Syria and Lebanon in particular by "embarrassing" them by such a naked act of terrorism and aggression in a last ditch bid to keep both countries out of the peace negotiations. The Israeli government must have also calculated that by making it very difficult for Damascus to stay on in the search for peace, other interested Arab parties would also be hard put to continue their participation in the peace parleys.

It is also part of the Israeli strategy to pull out the Palestinians from the talks. So when three Israeli soldiers were killed few days ago, at the hands of persons whose identities have yet to be determined, Israel rushed to the conclusion that the PLO was behind the killing. Under normal circumstances, the perpetrators would have to be apprehended and their identities established beyond a shadow of doubt before a finger is pointed in the direction of any group or faction as being behind the attack. Yet, Shamir government's accusation of the PLO as responsible for the attack on the three soldiers was so precipitous that it borders on ridiculous. Of course Israel is not interested in the truth because it has a fixation on the PLO and the Palestinians as a party that should never have a place on the negotiating table.

Such persisting Israeli tactics would obviously make the peace process face a continuous uphill battle. As it was never passed the Israeli establishment to kill its own nationals if necessary to drive home a certain message, the interested governments within and outside this region are called upon to call the Israeli bluff by sifting the truth from the disinformation that Israeli mouthpieces keeps on spewing to the world.

Meanwhile, even though it is expected that Arab reaction to the latest acts of Israeli terrorism will be swift and biting, the Arab parties to the Washington peace talks are correct in changing their plans by proceeding to the peace parleys in spite of the latest Israeli obstacles, if for no other reason than to expose the true Israeli intentions to the Americans and the international community.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR Arabic daily Monday discussed the latest Israeli terrorist attack on southern Lebanon in which innocent civilians were killed or injured. Finding itself unable to describe a resistance attack inside the occupied territories that ended with the death of three Israeli soldiers, as a terrorist faction, Israel has committed state terrorism by launching raids on defenceless people in South Lebanon, said the daily. Ever since its establishment amidst the Arab World, Israel has never stopped exercising its terrorism one way or another and has done it again in South Lebanon to provide further proof of its evil nature, said the paper. Furthermore, the Israelis are now hinting that the continued resistance activity was bound to keep them away from the Middle East peace negotiations, said the paper. It said it was not enough for the Israelis to launch criminal attacks on civilians in South Lebanon, but they are going one step further by hinting that the peace talks hinge on ending all resistance activity against occupation, thus demanding an end to a legitimate right of oppressed people living in occupied lands. The Israelis seem not to have learnt from past lessons and are not able to understand that the cycle of violence will continue until justice has been established said the daily.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic Daily Monday dwelt on the so-called new world order, saying that the United States was seeking to support and finance this system with Arab and Islamic oil wealth. Tareq Masarweh said that the United States is currently threatening to Attack Libya in order to intimidate that country into submission to Western will. As the United States is incapable economically to finance the new world order which it is advocating, it wants Libya and other Islamic countries to finance it, he said. One way of doing it is to force Libya to pay U.S. financial aid to Egypt. Furthermore, the writer said, Iran is made to play the role of holding together the Islamic countries of Pakistan, Turkey, and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, with American backing. He said that the United States wants Iran and the Gulf states to finance this group of Islamic but poor states to save Washington the burden of doing that itself. He also said that the multilateral talks in Moscow were arranged by Washington in order to achieve the same objective with the blessing of Europe which holds billions of Arab Petrodollars which can be used to finance the new world order, tailored to suit American interests around the world. The writer said that only Iraq remains outside this framework and for this reason the United States is trying to isolate and subdue that country because it has so far refused to succumb to Washington's will.

# Arabs should reach the unbiased media

By Mustafa Tell

In my last article (Jordan Times, Feb. 6, 1992) I looked at the bias of the U.S. mainstream media towards Israel and I started looking at some articles that dealt with Israel in the alternative media to show the difference. This week I pick up from where I left and I take a look at more articles from the Alternative media.

The first articles are from a recent issue of Z magazine. Z is a monthly alternative magazine that is published in Boston. In the December issue there were two articles that are of interest to us. The first one is "Double Speak" by Edward Herman. Prof. Herman is a college professor at the University of Pennsylvania. He is an author, and co-author of many books. He is also the editor of the alternative publication Lies of Our Times. "Double Speak" is a regular article in Z magazine about double standards in the U.S. policy. In the December article, Prof. Herman addressed the double standards of the U.S. when it comes to Israel and the Arabs. He questioned the reasons behind the U.S. efforts to repeal the U.N. resolution "Zionism is racism" at a time "when the racist aspects of Israeli policy have become deeply imbedded in the culture and the state terror is rampant." Prof. Herman went on to quote Maxim Gorkh, editor of the Paris journal Israel and Palestine, who argued that the repeal resolution would grant Israel a "valuable prize for its efforts to convert what was a some-time noble Zionist theory into a profoundly racist and oppressive reality." While statements like these are standards in the Arabic World, and the Arabic media,

they are considered radical here in the U.S. That's why the majority in the U.S. mainstream media will shy away from making such statements about Israel. It is up to people like Prof. Herman, and people like him in the alternative media, to bring forward such statements to the U.S. public. In other parts of his article, Prof. Herman discussed the U.S.-sponsored peace process. He questioned a peace process in which the Palestinians cannot choose freely their representatives; a peace process in which the Palestinians cannot hope for self-determination and a Palestinian state. He considered the peace conference a "post victory ratification of a structure of injustice, enforced on the participants and victims by browbeating, bribery, and threats." These words are radical not only by U.S. mainstream standards, but also by many moderate, and conservative, Arabic media standards.

The other article in Z magazine is also about the peace process in the Middle East. This one is by Prof. Noam Chomsky. Prof. Chomsky is a long time political activist and a regular contributor to many alternative publications. He is the author of The Fateful Triangle. This book explored the character and historical development of the U.S.-Israeli relationship. Prof. Chomsky is also a member in the Jewish Committee on the Middle East. This is an independent association of American Jews which oppose the U.S. bias towards Israel and demands a just settlement in the Middle East. In his article, "Middle East Diplomacy," Prof. Chomsky gave an extensive analysis of the Middle East situation. While his analysis is accepted in the Arab World, it is virtually unheard of in the U.S.

Prof. Chomsky presented an Israel that does not want peace but works against peace. He also presented an aggressive, and tyrannical, Israel. The Israel that he presented is different from the Israel that is cherished by the mainstream media here. One of the most interesting aspects of Prof. Chomsky's article was his exposing of some of the mainstream media myths about Israel, the Middle East, peace and the U.S. policy in the area. He explained how people in the mainstream media manipulate historical facts as they please to present a distorted picture of the Middle East. He also showed the selective historical filters which the mainstream media uses to present Israel as the innocent victim and the Arabs as the uncivilised aggressors. These same methods, historical manipulations and filters, are also used to distort the facts about the U.S. policy in the area.

Lies of Our Times is a magazine of media criticism. It is published monthly from New York. In the September issue there was an article by Nabeel Abraham about the peace process. In this article, "Peace Process?", Mr. Abraham unveiled the bias of the mainstream media towards Israel. He gave examples about this bias within the framework of the peace process. He also linked the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait with the Israeli occupation and showed how the mainstream media reacted differently in those cases. Mr. Abraham explained how the mainstream media will swallow the most outlandish propositions as long as it is Israel or another U.S. ally, that committed them. He wondered how the mainstream media would react, if the PLO put a list of

people who can represent Israel in the peace talks? Of course, there will be an outrage in the mainstream media, he says. But when Israel did exactly the same (put a list of conditions to who can represent the Palestinians in the peace talks), the mainstream media did not find anything wrong with that.

The last article we turn to was in Extral magazine. Extral is the publication of an organisations called FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy In Reporting) and it is published in New York on a bi-monthly basis. In the January/February issue, Extral devoted an article to show some of the bias in the mainstream media in its reporting of the Middle East peace talks.

The article, "Key Facts Missing in Reporting on Mideast Talks," showed how biased the mainstream media was towards Israel. Extral questioned a media that presents the PLO and the Arabs as terrorists yet ignores Israeli terrorism. Extral also asked why there were many facts, such as U.S. huge aide to Israel and Israel's hard-line concerning the peace talks, missing in the mainstream media reports.

According to Extral, if President Bush is really working for peace, he should urge Israel to offer land for peace, a concept that exists in many U.N. resolutions, he also should criticise Israel's expansion of settlements. These two demands are usually unheard in the mainstream media. To counter some of the claims from the mainstream media, which justify its bias towards Israel as a result of the Gulf war, Extral presented some historical examples of that bias. Extral argued that the mainstream media has always

been biased towards Israel.

One last interesting point made by Extral was a comparison between the attention given to the Israeli statements about certain Arab leaders who sided with Hitler in World War II and the lack of attention to the fact that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was a leading figure in the Stern Gang when it approached Hitler applying his totalitarian principles and proposing an alliance with Nazi Germany. While the Israeli statements covered a lot of newspapers front pages and received a lot of air time, the other story was nowhere to be found in the mainstream media. It is an interesting comparison which shows how selective and manipulative the mainstream media is.

One major point that can be concluded from these articles, is the bias of the mainstream media towards Israel and, on the other hand, the objectivity of the alternative media. The bias of the mainstream media is very unfortunate because there are many people in the U.S. who would like to know the truth about the Arab-Israeli conflict. The truth, though, has been concealed from these people by the manipulations, and the misinformations, of the widespread mainstream media. To find an objective view of this conflict, the people in the U.S. must turn to the difficult to find alternative media.

If we like to present our side of the story in the Arab-Israeli conflict to the people of the U.S., there are a couple of things that we can do. First, we have to develop a policy to work with the media in the U.S. This policy must keep in mind a few things. The major thing to keep in mind is the reality of the bias in the mainstream media. The other thing to keep in mind is the U.S. people's ignorance about the Middle East area. We also have to keep in mind the years of brainwashing that the people of the U.S. have been subjected to by the mainstream media.

The second thing we can do is to stop running after a mirage when we try to convince the mainstream media of our just cause. This media, that we are hopelessly running after, is the same media that only saw snow over Israel and only remembered the Israeli victims on the anniversary of the U.S. aggression on Iraq. We are wasting many important resources and time by running after the mainstream media. We must turn to the alternative media instead and use it as a way to reach the U.S. people. Unlike the mainstream media which will humiliate us and use us as a way to present its false objectivity, the alternative media has been historically on the side of justice and true peace. And justice and true peace is what we are after.

## LETTERS

### The lovely American vs the ugly American

To the Editor:

Lyndon Larouche is a great humanitarian, philosopher, economist, and politician; the administration that mobilises huge human and financial resources for years to put such a man behind bars is certainly a bad, vicious, corrupt administration, and the citizens who witness this happening without moving in defence of a brother humanitarian, rather a humanitarian father at 69, stand guilty in the eyes of humanity and their Lord. The truth that this one man bears and propagates is so great that it exposes the evil manipulation of the government of the largest power on earth. The only way to get rid of that truth was to defame its bearer.

Mr. Larouche stands upright as a living model of the Statue of Liberty. The U.S. administration today locks the spirit of the Statue of Liberty behind bars, robbing the monument in New York of its meaning. The people who continue doing so are people who ceased propagating Liberty, fraternity and equality to their compatriots as well as to the people of the world and dared change that noble message to a message of looting and killing mankind for private greed.

How do we get to know about great leading men and women who seek to realise real changes for the benefit of mankind today? Is it through mass media? Definitely not. Mass media is the most powerful instrument of dictatorship (The establishment). It is the machine that transmits the will of a few oligarchs manipulating power in a manner as to programme the collective mind of the public opinion and society for adopting "democratically" what the dictators impose. It serves the discreet dictatorship more effectively and subtly than the armies of totalitarian regimes, and keeps people fooled thinking that they really have a free will. Those who stand in the way of the establishment are crushed and get their character assassinated by this horrible machine. And that is what happened to Lyndon Larouche.

Until several months ago, I was exposed to the evil crusade against Mr. Larouche labelling him as "extremist," "fascist" etc. until I compelled myself to be introduced properly to this personality by reading his works and publications to get introduced to his ideas, stands, and positions on American and world issues.

At first, I started reading driven by a sense of duty; very quickly that changed into an enthusiastic self-drive that has changed my reading habits to place the publications of Mr. Larouche and friends on the top of my crowded reading list.

Until I read Mr. Larouche, I did not believe in the possible existence of a lovely American today. There was only the ugly American; I had even started doubting the American history and its freedom fighters against British imperialism. Thanks to Mr. Larouche, I once again believe that Noble Washington was not a farce, that he and his peers were truly globe great leaders. They were the lovely Americans, whose image the recent successive U.S. administrations have replaced for the image of the ugly American hated everywhere in the world today.

Lyndon Larouche is the lovely American who can steer the American ship from turbulent high seas to the tranquility and warmth of amicable human international relations, creating at the same time the internal conditions for correcting the catastrophic plunge of the U.S. economy which is gasping for breath through desperate looting techniques that only help push the world further downwards towards a dark future. His brilliant economic theories, critical of both Marxism and Adam Smith Liberalism are the continuation of the great U.S. Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton's "American System of Political Economy," they are close to the socio-economic model capable of saving the world today from the apocalypse it is heading for, preventing a Third World war inevitably caused by the present U.S. policies.

His programme is correct because it is based on the noblest of Christian ideals that man is the image of God and that nature is thus at his service, not the other way round; that he has a right to exist and the right to develop without racial bias and without being subjected to any apartheid system, (especially technological apartheid); that usury is a monstrous instrument for enslaving mankind, prohibited by God and his messengers; that the new world order of Mr. Bush based on "British liberalism" leading to the imperialism and mass genocide of the developing sector has to be stopped before it takes the planet to its destruction; that a new world order based on justice and economic cooperation among sovereign nations should be established.

I call on Americans to go lovely once again. Go the Larouche way. Not only will they save their country from economic fiasco, but they will also help lead the world of today with love, humility, and mutual respect among mankind instead of "gunboat diplomacy."

Laith Shubelait,  
Member of Parliament from the Islamic Movement,  
Amman-Jordan.

## Refugee city nobody wants rises in S. Arabia

By Neil MacFarquhar  
The Associated Press

RAHFA REFUGEE CAMP, SAUDI ARABIA — Iraqi engineer Sitar Sa'id abandoned a comfortable life one year ago for the rebellion he thought would topple Saddam Hussein.

Today, he finds himself interned in a desert camp in Saudi Arabia. But while refugees credit the \$400 million Saudi effort with easing the harsh conditions, they complain of forced repatriations and clashes over religion.

"We thought the Saudis, the Americans would help us," Mr. Sitar said of his decision to join the fight against Saddam Hussein after the Gulf war. "All we want is to fight for our freedom."

He's among more than 21,000 refugees from southern Iraq who fled to Saudi Arabia as Saddam Hussein's army crushed separate post-war rebellions by Shiite Muslim and Kurdish tribesmen.

Mr. Sitar and other Iraqi Shiites are interned in this city of tents and mud-brick shanties 570 kilometres northwest of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's capital, under Saudi military supervision.

The camp is just a few kilometres from the Iraqi border. Elsewhere, some 12,000 prisoners of war including more than 500 Iraqi officers are held at another camp at Artehiyah, 225 kilometres northwest of Riyadh.

Refugees told the first Western reporter to visit in more than six months that relations between them and their Saudi guards have deteriorated over the past year. Religion is one factor. The Iraqis are Shiites, a Muslim sect at odds with the mainstream Sunnis for centuries.

The Saudis are mostly Sunni, who in the extreme consider Shiism as heretical. Loudspeakers occasionally blast the sayings of the Prophet Mohammad, Islam's founder, across the camp.

Refugees said the pressure was applied mostly by the Saudi religious police, who have access to them.

"They want us to become like them, the same religion. Sometimes they give us books that speak out against Shiism," said Mr. Sitar.

The refugees also claimed instances in which their women were sexually harassed and said guards have demanded money for privileges.

But Brig. Gen. Abdullah Al Mazayad, the Rahfa army commander, said he knew of no instances of sexual harassment and said of the Iraqis, "they're free to do what they want with their religion. We don't force them to change."

While praising the massive Saudi relief effort, refugees said the tensions culminated six weeks ago in a pre-dawn raid in which several hundred refugees were

taken away from the camp and forcibly returned to Iraq.

"There's no doubt Saddam will kill these people," said another camp intern, Khalid Sa'id, 34.

Refugees responded with strikes and demonstrations, including a sit-down protest at the gates by more than 2,000 people.

The exact number of forcible repatriations and the reasons for the expulsions remain unclear. But the Saudi government said the decision was taken by local authorities and an investigation had been opened.

Al Brig. Gen. Mazayad denied all knowledge of the incident, saying: "Nobody was sent back against his will."

Al Brig. Gen. Mazayad doesn't deny that there have been problems.

There have been constant squabbles and fights between Iraqis, most transferred here from the Kuwait border before the allied forces withdrew last year.

"You have to think of it as a small city, no doubt there will be problems," Brig. Gen. Al Mazayad said.

Weapons were confiscated, but in one instance, an Iraqi accused of pro-Saddam sympathies was stabbed to death. There have been at least three other killings.

Refugees said letters reaching them from the prisoner of war camp report constant fighting and four deaths there.

Relief agency officials note that the Saudis have virtually no experience handling refugees although they give them high marks for generous spending and efforts to meet international standards.

Brig. Gen. Al Mazayad said Riyadh has spent 1.4 billion riyals (\$440 million) on the refugees.

Within a month they are expected to move to a more permanent camp with houses with cement floors and high cinder-block walls that will keep out the wind and cold.

The Saudis supply fresh food regularly. The refugees get clothing allowances and several hundred dollars a year each in pocket money, nurturing a camp bazaar.

Children attend a school staffed by 200 Iraqi teachers. Iraqi doctors and engineers also work. There are limited daily shopping trips to Rahfa and weekly pilgrimages to Mecca, Islam's holiest shrine.

"The assistance the kingdom provides is second to none," said Michael L. Menning, a United Nations Refugee Agency official.

But the refugees, surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards, feel like prisoners.

More than 950 chose to return home recently under an amnesty offered by Saddam Hussein. Another 1,500 are expected to be reunited with relatives in Iran. But few other countries want them.

## Algerian rulers seek cash for long-term cure

By John Baggaley  
Reuters

ALGIERS — Algerian troops on night patrol, stalemated in their mission to crush Muslim fundamentalist unrest, hunkered down and keep to the shadows.

They walk in fear that extremists, deprived of a chance to take power through the ballot box, will fight back against the military-backed authorities with ambushes and explosives.

The authorities say they want to get the troops back in barracks but they need cash fast to set in motion a long-term cure to the political crisis.

The security forces have deployed in strength to stop the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) mobilising its supporters against the state of emergency imposed one week ago.

The show of strength has had some effect — the FIS called off a march through Algiers on Friday, apparently for fear it would lead to large-scale bloodshed.

But isolated gunfights broke out and scores of people were arrested. A police station was attacked and five people were killed in a mysterious explosion.

"(Friday's events) did not prove anything or solve anything," one European diplomat said.

"Tightening the screw on the FIS may only force it underground and bring a repeat of terrorist actions from hardliners," said another diplomat.

Algerian writer Khaled Mahez said on Sunday, "the military themselves recognise they cannot eternally occupy the streets of Algiers and elsewhere without major risks to stability."

While the authorities concentrate on restoring law and order, little has happened on the political and economic fronts.

The ruling High Council of State came to power in mid-January after the authorities cancelled the second round of parliamentary elections to stop the FIS winning.

The five-man council has made no firm promises about new elections and is under pressure to act quickly on the economy, which is labouring under a foreign debt of \$25 billion.

Officials and diplomats say a massive injection of foreign money is needed to kickstart the economy and relieve the poverty that helps swell FIS ranks.

"People have felt a real despair and this is what made them embrace the propaganda of the FIS," said one official. "The best way to deal with the fundamentalists is to address the real reasons and for this we need money."

Waiting for complete stability to return might be too late.

In Europe, bankers are hesitating to dig in to their pockets to

fund \$1.5 billion to help, fearing instability will endanger both the principal and the interest on the loan.

A refinancing accord has been postponed several times after footdragging by a U.S. bank in the syndicate.

The government needs to create work for over 1.5 million jobless, their number swelling each day.

In their search of foreign finance, the Algerian authorities can point to the country's success as a mediator in international conflicts and to the likely effects instability in Algeria would have in the whole Western Mediterranean.

Algeria helped resolve the U.S.-Iran hostage crisis and end civil war in Lebanon. It has also mediated between rebels and officials in neighbouring Mali.

Officials say checking Muslim fundamentalism among Algeria's 25 million people is crucial for neighbouring Tunisia and Morocco and for conservative Gulf Arab states. All have fundamentalists who drew strength from the FIS's successes.

"Destabilisation in Algeria would be bad for everybody, not only our neighbours but also the European Community," an Algerian official said.

Portugal, which holds the European Community presidency, has backed the Algerian rulers' decision to declare a state of emergency. The EC should give Algeria financial backing, said Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro.

At the weekend, Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi started a tour of Gulf states, apparently seeking cash.

Mr. Brahimi is well-known in the Arab World from the time when he was the Arab League envoy responsible for negotiating a political settlement in Lebanon.

"We are telling our Arab brothers that Algeria is in a crisis and needs help," Mohammed Boudiaf, head of the five-man presidency sworn in last month, said recently.

Diplomats say Algeria has enough pledged credit and earnings — \$11 billion from hydrocarbon exports this year — to struggle on. But real progress depends on foreign oil companies taking advantage of new laws opening oil and gas fields to them.

Energy Minister Nordine Ait Laoussine said the firms were maintaining their interest. Diplomats say some at least are holding back to see how events develop.

Algerian officials believe foreign expertise to boost oil recovery levels, plus cash for the right to exploit reserves, could bring the billions of dollars needed for radical change which Mr. Boudiaf promised the people when law and order returned.



## Hizbollah vows revenge

(Continued from page 1)  
 Iranian and Israeli detainees execute them immediately," said a statement signed with a previous-unknown name. "The Factions defending the Oppressed and deprived of the World."

The hand-written one-page statement in Arabic was delivered to an international news agency in Beirut.

Although it was phrased as if Lebanese fundamentalists held several Israeli captives, only one Israeli serviceman missing in Lebanon is believed to be alive — Airman Ron Arad, shot down in 1986.

The statement called on Muslim extremists "to strike at all Israeli and American interests in all the corners of the world so as to meet challenge with challenge."

No group has admitted holding Arad.

## Hizbollah vows revenge

Tens of thousands of mourners, shouting hate slogans against the United States and Israel, thronged the southern slums of Beirut Monday for the funeral procession of Sheikh Musawi.

"Death to America, Death to the Great Satan," the crowds yelled as young, bearded militants of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah toured the muddy streets carrying on their shoulders the oak wood coffins of Sheikh Musawi, his wife and son.

Others shouted: "Death to Israel, You shall be Avenged" or brandished posters reading "Musawi, Prince of Martyrs."

Sheikh Musawi, 39, the leader of Hizbollah, his wife, Siham, 33, and the couple's youngest of six children, Hussein, 5, were killed in an attack Sunday by Israeli helicopter gunships in south Lebanon.

Some 50,000 men took part in the three-hour procession. Several hundred women, all of them clad in head-to-toe veils, or chadors, trailed behind, carefully avoiding mixing with the male mourners. Many of them were weeping.

They walked for three hours through the streets of Beir Al Abed, Haret Hreik, Shiyah and Mar Mikhael, the poor neighborhoods of Beirut where the urban Shiites are concentrated.

Veiled women, pecking from windows of tattered buildings, or standing on the balconies and roofs of ramshackle houses showered the caskets with rose petals. Thousands of black flags flew

atop apartment blocks and larger-than-life portraits of the black-turbaned Musawi decorated the shuttered shops along the route. Loudspeakers blaring verses from the Koran from the mosque minarets competed with each other and with the wild crowd in the streets. The mood was one of anger and hate rather than grief.

The coffins were then placed in an ambulance bedecked with a black flag and taken to the ancient city of Baalbek, 50 kilometres east of Beirut, for another funeral Tuesday before burial in Musawi's hometown of Nabi Sheit.

Leading the procession were black-or white-turbaned Shiite clergymen as well as Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, a special envoy of Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"We are struggling for martyrdom, we will continue to support the resistance," Jannati told the

mourners. "Death to the Great Satan," the crowd back, "they killed Abbas, we are Abbas." Tehran radio carried a message by Iran's spiritual leader, Ali Khamenei, which read in part: "May the curse and damnation of God be on the bloodthirsty Zionists, who will not turn away from any crime in the way of their filthy, incursionist goals, and on their wicked, insolent supporters."

Iran's foreign ministry said in a statement that "what makes the usurper Israel bolder in perpetuating such crimes is the unconditional support it receives from the United States."

Hizbollah called for a strike to protest the killing of the Musawis along with four bodyguards. Eighteen other people travelling in the motorcade were wounded when the Israeli helicopters fired five wire-guided missiles that hit

the seven-car convoy. Earlier Sunday a woman, her two sons and a third boy were killed and 11 people were wounded in Israeli air attacks on Palestinians in south Lebanon.

The strike was headed in Muslim areas of Lebanon. Schools, shops, banks and all businesses were closed in the southern slums, south Lebanon and the eastern Bekaa valley.

But in Christian regions, life was normal with businesses and schools open. That underscored the split in the half-Christian, half-Muslim nation that has recently emerged from 15 years of civil war.

## West worried

The weekend spasm of violence in the Middle East sent a wave of alarm through Western capitals on Monday, and governments expressed concern that the

killings should not derail the slow-moving Arab-Israeli peace talks.

France and Britain followed the United States in calling for restraint by the Middle Eastern parties.

Arab attackers knifed and axed to death three Israeli soldiers at an army camp in northern Israel on Saturday.

In Paris, foreign ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said France "has observed with great anxiety that an escalation of violence is once again threatening the Middle East."

"France calls on the sense of responsibility of all the parties involved, for them to abstain from any act that could endanger hopes of peace in the region which were born with the process undertaken in Madrid," he said. Britain, like France, refused to single out either Israel or the Arabs for blame over the latest

violence. A Foreign Office spokesman said all such acts "lead nowhere except to fresh violence and suffering."

"Only one lesson emerges — these acts clearly underline the need for early progress in the peace process," he added.

Earlier, U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said in a statement on Sunday that Washington was "concerned at the rising cycle of violence in the Middle East in recent days" and called for all parties to exercise maximum restraint.

British junior Foreign Minister Douglas Hogg, setting out on a one-day trip to Kuwait, said on Monday he was "encouraged very much" that Syria and Lebanon had confirmed on Sunday they would attend next week's round in Washington.

## PM details plan to combat unemployment

(Continued from page 1)  
 resources, conduct surveys before embarking on projects, provide appropriate mechanism to handle its various tasks and should above all, direct its attention to serve low-income groups.

With this in mind, there is dire need for reorganising the DEF in a manner that would cater to the needs of the current situation. The ministries of finance, planning and labour ought to present the government with an integrated concept for the work and function of the DEF within the space of one month from now.

Other institutions like the National Aid Fund (NAF) and charitable organisations should also double their efforts in initiating projects to create as many job opportunities as possible.

Voluntary and charitable organisations can play a leading role at the social and economic levels in urban and rural regions and they ought to intensify their efforts under the present circumstances.

To stimulate these institutions' function the government plans to call for a general meeting of the voluntary organisations within one month from now so that delegates can discuss various aspects of activities that can be undertaken to help stem unemployment.

The fourth step concerns vocational training in Jordan. VTC centres offer an excellent opportunity to people to master trades and embark on small and medium size projects

to earn a living.

There is real need for implementing a national programme designed to classify technicians and tradesmen with a view to defining their skills and abilities and facilitating their employment locally and abroad. There is need to give priority to graduates of universities and community colleges to become skillful technicians at a higher level than that acquired at their educational institutions.

I look forward to see the ministries of education and higher education as well as the ministries of planning and labour come up with an integrated concept of a national plan on vocational training within three months.

The fifth step concerns the execution of projects that can absorb as many hands as possible. The ministries of planning, public works and water and irrigation are mainly concerned with this issue and should embark on measures to see that such a policy is implemented so that the country can find work for as many people as possible. The government plans to carry out a national project for the protection of the environment and for stemming desertification. This requires cooperation on the part of the ministries of agriculture, industry and trade, social development and youth to join hands and work out a plan within one month taking into account the employment of Jordanian youth.

The sixth step concerns the

establishment of an institution to encourage Jordanian firms to operate abroad and get contracts to employ Jordanians especially in construction, industry, education, medicine, engineering and consultancy fields. Concerned ministries ought to present the government with an integrated programme within three months.

The seventh step regards administrative procedures at the Civil Service Commission

(CSC). The CSC should open the way for the employment of more skilled and highly efficient people, should open the way for civil servants to take leave without pay and facilitate the process of seconding government employees to other countries.

I hope that these ideas will be given due and serious consideration and put into force as soon as possible so that the country can deal with the chronic problem of unemployment.

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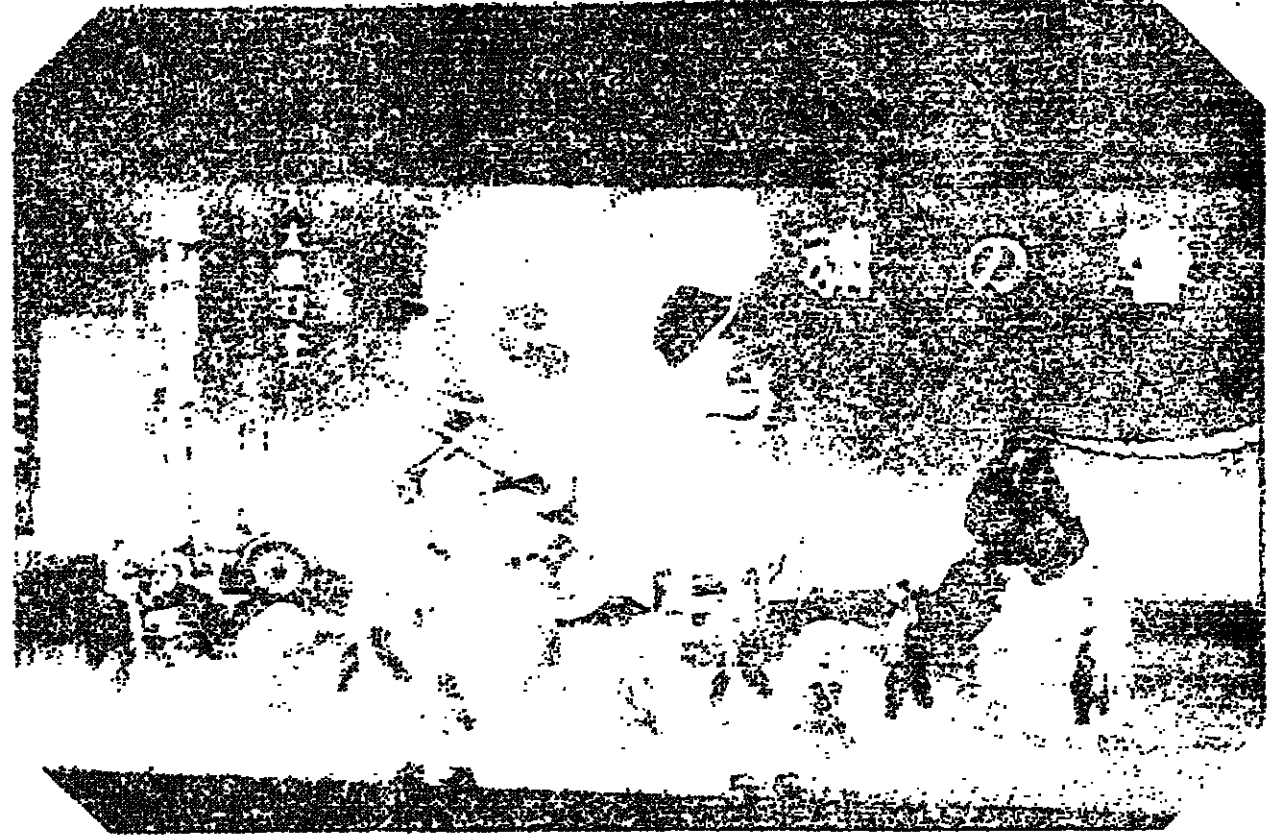
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## Russian wins record 10th Winter Olympics medal with relay

ALBERTVILLE, France (AP) — Russian Raisa Smetanina, still racing the world's best over cross country ski trails at age 39, won a record 10th Winter Olympics medal Monday as she helped her team to a relay gold.

The relay's anchor skier, Lyubov Egorova, became these games' first triple gold medalist. She already had won the 10- and 15-kilometre individual races and took a silver medal in the 5k.

The quartet from the Unified Team of former Soviet athletes finished the 4 x 5k relay 21.6 seconds ahead of Norway, which had a stellar Sunday with victories by a speedskater and Alpine skier recently out of hospital.

Smetanina, skiing the second leg, stumbled at one point and Norway's Inger Helene Nybraten overtook her. On the next leg, Larissa Lasutina, starting 9.2 seconds behind the Norwegians, regained the lead for the Unified Team.

"It was very difficult for me because I realized that I couldn't do as well as I was hoping for," said Smetanina. "But still I'm very happy because it may be my last gold medal."

Italy took the bronze, 50.1 seconds behind the winners over the hilly, 1,600-metre track at the foot of Mount Blanc.

Smetanina, who turns 40 on Feb. 29, is in her fifth Olympics. In her first, the 1976 Innsbruck games, she won relay and 10k gold and a silver in the 5k.

She now has four gold, five silver and one bronze medal, surpassing the total of nine medals by Swedish cross country skier

Sixten Jernberg. He won four gold, three silver and two bronze medals in three Winter Olympics starting in 1956.

The Unified Team, however, still trailed Germany and Austria for overall medals supremacy in these games. Germany had 18, including seven gold, and Austria 16, including four gold. The Unified Team had 15, including six gold.

Right behind them, Norway's tally of six gold medals and 13 in all was approaching its recent Winter Olympic best of six golds and 14 medals in 1968, when it led the standings.

France, celebrating its three gold and three silver medals so far, hoped for another victory by skier Carole Merle, but snow and fog at Meribel forced a one-day postponement in the women's super-giant slalom. It was the first time in these games that an event could not be held on the scheduled day.

Norway, which started ski jumping contests more than a century ago, left that field Sunday to "flying Finn" Toni Nieminen, a double gold medalist at age 16.

But Johann Olav Koss, hospitalized a week ago with a pancreatic infection, led a 1-2 Norwegian finish in the men's 1,500-metre speedskating. And Kjetil Andre Aamodt, down with mononucleosis in November and flu last week, won the men's super-giant slalom — Norway's first Olympic gold in Alpine skiing in 40 years. Countrymen placed third and fourth.

In Norway, "Alpine skiing has been in the shadow of Nordic

skiing for years," said bronze medalist Jan Einar Thorsen. Indeed, three Norwegian golds here came in cross country skiing.

French skier Franck Piccard joined Austrians Leonhard Stock, Hubert Strolz and Anita Wachter in succumbing to a jinx — no Alpine skier ever has won the same event twice in the Olympics. He fell after only seven of the 39 super-G gates.

Four-time World Cup champion Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg ended his Olympic medal brought by winning the silver.

But the day belonged to Norway and to Aamodt, 20, who won by a respectable 73 seconds in an event often decided by hundredths. Behind bronze medalist Thorsen, Norwegian teammate Ole Christian Furuseth placed fourth.

"It's very close at the top and if you make a little mistake, you drop 20 places immediately," said Aamodt, who missed the combined event last Monday and Tuesday because of flu.

Last November, he was in the hospital for two weeks with mononucleosis. He said doctors warned him it would take six months to get over the virus.

Koss came out of a hospital on Feb. 9, and four days later finished only sixth in the men's 5,000, one of three events in which he holds the world record.

But Sunday, he edged teammate Adne Sondral and Dutch skater Leo Visser in a 1,500-metre race in which the top three times were within one-tenth of a second.

"It feels great to be a Norwe-

gian when we do it so well in so many sports," Koss said.

In the 120-metre ski jump, Nieminen won a battle of teenagers, soaring 122 and 123 metres, while 17-year-old Austrian Martin Hoelwarth went 120.5 and 116.5. Another Austrian, Heinz Kuttin, jumped 117.5 and 112, winning the bronze.

"I felt the pressure after Martin's good (second) jump, but I had to forget it and to concentrate on my own jump," said Nieminen, who faced similar pressure last Friday when his last jump pushed Finland past Austria for a gold medal in the team event.

That made him the youngest male gold medalist ever in the Winter Olympics.

Switzerland, frustrated in Alpine skiing, won its first gold of these games when bobsledders Gustav Weder and Donat Acklin surged from their fifth-place standing after Saturday's first two runs and edged Germany's Rudi Lochner and Markus Zimmermann in the closest finish since the 1968 Olympics.

The winning German sled — Christoph Langen and Gunther Eger — took the bronze.

The German skiing-and-shooting team beat athletes of what was the Soviet Union for the first time in an Olympic biathlon relay, winning the 4 x 7.5-kilometre event by 22.8 seconds.

Mark Kirchner, who led a 1-2 German finish in the 10k individual race, gained his second gold here. Sweden took the bronze.

## Navratilova wins record 158th career tennis title

CHICAGO (R) — Martina Navratilova won a record 158th career singles title Sunday by saving a match point to beat Czechoslovakian Jana Novotna 7-6 (4-6), 7-5 at the \$350,000 Virginia Slims of Chicago tournament.

"You can say it's just another match, just another tournament, just another downhill race but it's not," said the fourth-ranked Navratilova. "It's the Olympics. It's not just another race."

"You can lie to yourself all you want but when the record's on the line, it puts tremendous pressure on you."

The 35-year-old Navratilova had shared the all-time record with her longtime rival Chris Evert, who retired two years ago. Jimmy Connors holds the men's mark at 109 career singles titles. "I'm glad it's over," Navratilova said of the four-month wait since her last title at the Virginia Slims of California.

## Washington wins 1st pro title

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Malawi Washington completed an impressive run to his first professional singles title with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Wayne Ferreira in the Federal Express International.

Washington, the No. 14 seed, never let his South African opponent get his power game in gear, using his strong strokes from the baseline and well-timed rushes to the net to keep Ferreira on the defensive.

Washington, who did not lose a

set in his five matches, also depended upon his patience and methodical style of play as he posted a semifinal round victory over Jimmy Connors on his way to winning the \$103,000 winner's check.

Seventh-seeded Ferreira upended Pete Sampras, the world's No. 4 player, in straight sets in the third round and rushed past unseeded Amos Mansdorf in two sets in Saturday's semifinals. Ferreira earned \$55,400 for finishing second.

## Becker beats Courier in Brussels indoor final

BRUSSELS (R) — Boris Becker saved three match points in the third set before going on to beat world number one Jim Courier 6-7 (2-6), 7-6 (7-5) in the final of the Belgian Indoor Tennis Tournament Sunday.

It was American Courier's fourth loss in as many matches against the German, who also won the tournament in 1990.

Becker survived the three matchpoints in the third set tie-break which he won 12-10.

He then wasted three match points in the final set before Courier finally lost the four hour 55 minute match on a double fault.

Becker, who took home a winner's cheque of \$111,000, reappeared on court soon afterwards to play the doubles final with John McEnroe. Said Courier: "I'm not going to torture myself. I played the best I could. He came with the shots at the right moment."

## Duchesnays under pressure to win ice dancing gold

ALBERTVILLE, France (AP) — Nerves are fraying in the Duchesnays camp.

French ice dancing superstars Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay carry the high expectations of their country into tonight's free dance. If that's not enough, they will have to come from second place and beat Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko of the unified team by two places to win the gold medal.

"For Duchesnays, it is difficult," Ponomarenko said. "Everybody wants them to win. We can just go out and skate."

The strain showed Sunday night following the original dance.

"My sister is giving me a hard time," Paul said as Isabelle grabbed him tightly by the arm and dragged him away from a group of reporters.

Minutes before, Christopher Dean, the couple's choreographer and Isabelle's husband, uncharacteristically refused to speak to reporters.

Before Isabelle interceded, Paul discussed frankly the stress of being defending world champions competing for an Olympic medal in their own land.

"It's not easy living with the daily pressure," said Paul, who with his sister left Canada to

skate for France seven years ago. "The evenings are very stressful. We'll be glad when it's all over."

On the ice, the Duchesnays couldn't have looked happier. Accompanied by the rhythmic clapping of their adopted countrymen, they skated a whimsical and spunky polka to The Lonely Goatherd from The Sound of Music, with Paul wearing lederhosen and Isabelle a blue tyrolean-style dress.

The Duchesnays' marks placed them second in the original dance and second overall. The couple had been third after Friday's compulsory.

The couple will be skating their free dance to music from West Side Story, an eagerly anticipated routine that has been seen by only a few ice dancing insiders.

"Our thoughts are only on a good performance," Paul said. "We'll give our best shot tomorrow night without any medals in mind, just to skate well and have a nice finish to the Olympics."

Klimova and Ponomarenko, the 1989 and '90 world champions, won the 1984 Olympic bronze medal and a silver in 1988. The Duchesnays may win the free dance, but the unified couple will win the gold even if they finish second tonight.

## Al Wihdat takes home premier league trophy

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The last match of the 1991 premier league proved to be one of the most interesting and enjoyable matches of the season, when Al Wihdat Monday drew 1-1 with Al Faisali and took home the 1991 trophy.

The match played at Al Hussein Youth City Stadium and held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, was attended by His Highness Prince Ra'ad Bin Zeid and Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidat. Over 15,000 soccer fans also attended despite live television coverage.

Al Wihdat had already secured the title early in the championship. But Al Faisali needed to win or draw to secure the second place leaving Al Ramtha to settle for third.

Al Faisali dominated the match early on in the first half. Jamal Abu Abed scored for Al Faisali with an accurate shot from just outside the penalty box in the 17th minute. Al Faisali later had many chances but failed to score.

Al Wihdat's Naser Al Horani scored his team's equalising goal from a header early in the second half, as the match changed to Al Wihdat's advantage with Hisham Abdul Mun'em leading his team's attacks in the absence of the injured Ibrahim Sa'diyeh, Rafeh Hasanat and Ra'ed Assaf.

Al Faisali also missed a key player ... Khaled Awad. Towards the end of the second half there were repeated attempts by Al Wihdat's Jihad Abdul Mun'em (the league's top scorer), and Al Faisali's Jiryes Tadros to score second goals for their respective teams, but to no avail.

Both teams were content with the draw. Al Wihdat added the 1991 premier league title to their previous titles of 1980 and 1987. Al Faisali has won the title a record eight times in 1976, 1977, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989 and 1990. Al Ahli won the title twice in 1978 and 1979. Al Ramtha also has won twice, in 1981 and 1982, while Amman won the title in 1984.

Earlier in the week, Al Wihdat scored a victory over Al Ramtha in a much awaited match by both teams and soccer fans alike.

Al Ramtha who felt they were ready to play anyone, as they had played many of the best Asian teams in the Asian Cup Winners Cup, longed to beat this season's champions.

Al Wihdat on the other hand, had not played league matches for over two months, but clearly wanted to assert themselves as the well-earned winners of the premier league title.

The first half ended a scoreless draw, despite a few missed chances for Al Ramtha.

The second half however got off to a bad start for Al Ramtha, as Al Wihdat's Ismael Al Zaghari and Jihad Abdul Mun'em scored two successive goals in the first minutes.

Al Ramtha were clearly stunned and began an aggressive offensive. Mouaffaq Abu Hadeib lost two chances to equalise before Qusai Daraiseh scored Al Ramtha's only goal from a header in the 84th minute, ending the match at 2-1 for Al Wihdat.

With the premier league matches now completed there remains the Jordan Cup final between Al Wihdat and Al Ramtha on Friday Feb. 21 to conclude the 1991 soccer season giving players, coaches, and fans less than a month's break before the 1992 season kicks off on March 20.

## FINAL PREMIER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Al Wihdat	15	2	1	34	7	32
Al Faisali	12	2	4	34	15	26
Al Ramtha	12	1	5	39	16	25
Al Ahli	9	5	4	28	15	23
Al Hussein	7	4	7	26	25	18
Al Arabi	6	5	7	23	17	17
Al Qadisiyah	7	2	9	17	29	16
Al Karneel	6	1	11	17	42	13
Al Jazireh	3	3	12	13	23	9
Al Jeel	—	1	17	6	53	1

## Krabbe to fight ban

BERLIN (R) — Double world

sprint champion Katrin Krabbe, Germany's top medal hope in the summer Olympics, said Monday she and two star team mates would fight their suspension for a doping offence in the courts.

"I'm not giving up. We're taking this to court," Krabbe said in a brief interview with the mass-circulation newspaper Bild in her east German home town of Neubrandenburg.

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) suspended Krabbe, 22, Silke Moeller, 27, and Grit Breuer, 20, for four years Saturday for manipulating urine samples during a random dope test at a training camp in South Africa last month.

"It's as if I've just taken a blow to the forehead," Krabbe told a local journalist.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The Full Moon in Leo early this morning may point you towards a contemplation of your over-all aims and objectives which in some ways seem uncertain and likely to change at present.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Seek out the most unusual and unique personalities with whom you can make contact and get from them ideas beneficial for your progress.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Find persons of prominence who are very New Age in their ideas and standpoints and let them in on how they can best aid your career interests.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Be off and away to all kinds of places and with persons you have not known before this and let them be more aware of what they can do to help you.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You can look at relations with your close attachment from a different angle and be able to please that person by some new standpoint.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You would be intelligent now to add some very alive and modern personalities to your group so you can extend your ideas to new, better vistas.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You can plunge into whatever

activities face you with considerable esprit de corps and get them done in a most satisfactory and efficient manner.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 21) A great day to combine pleasures you have enjoyed for some time past with new entertainment and recreations which are now available to you.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) A good going over of everything at your home and making it more modern and up to date would be a constructive way to utilize this day.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Communications of all kinds, both to conventional and unconventional types of persons would yield you very beneficial results by quick action.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Be more current in the manner in which you handle and proceed to whatever has to do with your property and possessions and you increase their value.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You certainly have many good ideas and plans of action to bring to the attention of those who are able to help you to prosper through them.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Money, money is at the centre of your thoughts now so make sure that you study all kinds of interesting ways to increase your abundance.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I understand marriages are made in heaven. Did mine come with a warranty?"

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YEGEL

BLOIM

MUSSIE

PREMAT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: PILOT COWER SAVAGE UNCLAD

Answer: A businessman is judged by the company he keeps -- SOLVENT

## THE Daily Crossword by Wilson McBeath

ACROSS

- Place for an earring
- Forty
- Greenish-blue
- Refuge
- Stoppers
- Singer Guthrie
- Revolve as a legacy
- Thin cooky
- Public outbreak
- Local of Indiana State U.
- Berry and Murray
- Room in a cave
- Lake Indiana
- Bungled
- Ascertain
- Before grim or grin
- Orient
- Fiber plant
- Literary form
- Talltale
- Ventures
- Draw a — on
- Graham of football
- Small songbird
- "Gunsmoke" name
- Came up
- Harriet
- fastener
- "To — not to be"
- City on the Ohio
- In — (pored by routine)
- Madras
- Exemplar
- of passage
- Son of Seth
- Seems imminent
- Forest animal
- Talk out
- Other

DOWN

- Fill the hold
- Done
- Toby's contents
- Catch
- Cardage fiber
- Some plants
- Thin insect
- "Ad astra"
- 9 Bush of Indiana
- Lake Indiana
- "One —"
- (Romberg song)
- Doodles
- Panama
- US president
- Small —
- princess
- Politics star
- Larry
- Music halls
- Make haste
- Composer from Peru, IN
- Ms. Kett
- Both: prof.
- Old man: Gor.
- 36 dog does
- Apollonia's son
- Godness of fertility
- US president
- Alcohol
- Looked carefully
- Vituperate
- 50 High nest
- Culinary line of travel
- Aromatic seed
- Shakespeare
- Wind indicator
- Admired one
- 56 Drucker and Gens
- 59 Kind of duck
- 60 They "loop" the Loop

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ALIAS NAME BOAT  
TIGER ARMY ARMY  
DIPLOMA DIPLOMA  
MEMORABLE MEMORABLE  
BANA BANA  
DAS CSA DEAR  
SHARPE SHARPE  
SAGAMORE SAGAMORE  
SIBIR SIBIR  
CASTLES CASTLES  
AUNTS AUNTS  
PIRAS PIRAS  
AUNT TARA AUNT  
ALFA ORIN TOLDS

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& TANNAH HIRSCH  
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### MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR TRICKS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 7 5

♥ K Q J 7

♦ A Q J 6 2

♣ 6 5

WEST

♠ 8 4

♥ 9 4 3 2

♦ 9 7

♣ A K 10 7 2

EAST

♠ K 3 2

♥ A 10 8 6

♦ 8 4 3

♣ A Q J 10 9 6

SOUTH

♠ A Q J 10 9 6

♥ 5

♦ K 10 5

♣ 9 4 3

The bidding:

South West North East

2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

There is nothing more embarrassing for a defender than going to bed with an ace. If you have found a way to defeat a contract, make sure you collect all your tricks.

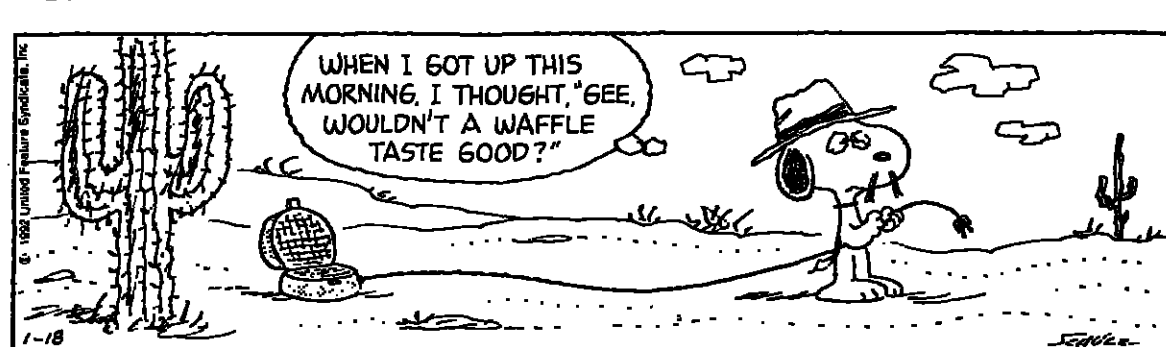
North-South were playing weak two-bids, and even at this vulnerability the South hand was maximum for such action. North showed interest in game (two no trump was forcing, and three diamonds showed a feature in that suit) and, although the three-ace bid was technically a sign-off, South went on to game on the strength of the near-solid trump

suit. West led the king of clubs and the sight of dummy brought little joy to East's heart. Two club tricks and the ace of hearts would complete the book, but from where was the setting trick coming? South almost surely held the king of diamonds, and if not, that card would be finessable if necessary, so there were no more tricks to be had from the side suits. The king of trumps was the only hope, but it could be picked up with repeat finesse. If dummy could be forced to ruff, however, the king of trumps would become the fourth defensive trick.

East dropped the queen of clubs under the king, showing either the jack or a singleton. West duly undid the ace of clubs, and East was on lead with the jack.

A careless defender might now hand declarer the contract by continuing with a club. Dummy would ruff and although the king of trumps would now be protected, declarer would sneak home. After ruffing the club on the table, declarer would take the trump finesse, cash the ace and then run diamonds. East would be able to ruff the fourth round with the king, but declarer's heart would vanish on that trick. That possibility was laid to rest when East wisely cashed the ace of hearts before continuing with a club—down one.

## Peanuts





# Financial Markets

in co-operation with  
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	High Close	Low Close
Sterling Pound	1.7710	1.7845
Deutsche Mark	1.6285	1.6104
Swiss Franc	1.4659	1.4540
French Franc	5.5335	5.5045
Japanese Yen	127.90	126.93
European Currency Unit	1.2575	1.2658

2500 Per 100  
\*Forward Opening 6:30 a.m. GMT

Forward Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.93	4.00	4.18	4.43
Sterling Pound	10.50	10.18	10.06	10.00
Deutsche Mark	9.56	9.43	9.50	9.31
Swiss Franc	7.31	7.31	7.25	7.18
French Franc	9.93	9.93	9.87	9.75
Japanese Yen	5.50	5.15	4.93	4.81
European Currency Unit	10.18	10.18	10.18	9.93

Interest rates for deposits exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Metals	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metals	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	354.40	6.75	Silver	4.16	.090

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6790	0.6810
Sterling Pound	1.2108	1.2169
Deutsche Mark	0.4207	0.4228
Swiss Franc	0.4674	0.4697
French Franc	0.1232	0.1236
Japanese Yen	0.5335	0.5362
Dutch Guilder	0.3740	0.3759
Swedish Krona	0.1155	0.1161
Italian Lira	0.0561	0.0564
Belgian Franc	0.02023	0.02033

Per 100

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7720	1.7810
Lebanese Lira	0.07710	0.07782
Saudi Riyal	0.1808	0.1817
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.1840	0.1849
Qatari Riyal	0.2020	0.2150
Egyptian Pound	1.7380	1.7460
Omani Riyal	0.1840	0.1849
UAE Dirham	0.3601	0.3700
Greek Drachma	1.4790	1.5025
Cypriot Pound		

Per 100

CAS Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	15 - 2. 1992 Close	16 - 2. 1992 Close
All-Share	137.85	139.59
Banking Sector	110.60	113.69
Insurance Sector	134.65	135.18
Industry Sector	178.32	178.43
Services Sector	154.76	153.95

December 31, 1991 - 1992

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7740/50	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1875/80	Canadian dollar
	1.6195/05	Deutschemarks
	1.8265/75	Dutch guilders
	1.4618/28	Swiss francs
	33.35/39	Belgian francs
	5.5200/50	French francs
	1217/1218	Italian lire
	126.85/95	Japanese yen
	5.8850/8900	Swedish crowns
	6.3575/3625	Norwegian crowns
	6.2840/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	354.20/354.70	U.S. dollars

## Dadzie accepts need to reform UNCTAD

CARTAGENA, Colombia (R) — The head of the U.N. agency promoting world trade and development recognises the need for reforms, following Western accusations that it has become a stagnant and divisive talking shop.

Kenneth Dadzie, secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), believes his organisation has an important role in the post-cold war world.

But asked about criticisms of its operations, Mr. Dadzie told Reuters he had no doubt that UNCTAD's work "needs to be updated and adjusted to take into account current realities."

UNCTAD is holding its eighth conference in this Caribbean resort at a critical point in its history.

Western governments accuse the 166-member grouping, formed in the early 1960s to promote world trade and spur development of poor nations, of ineffectiveness and time wasting.

U.S. delegate Melinda Kimble said last week that after initial creative work, UNCTAD had "stagnated, been reduced to ster-

ile debates and accusatory polemics."

Mr. Dadzie, 61, a soft-spoken Ghanaian with an economics degree from Britain's Cambridge University, staunchly defends the organisation, while accepting that it needs to be modernised.

"The end of the cold war has brought in its wake profound changes in the international political and economic context," Mr. Dadzie said in an interview.

A new sense of partnership had emerged between developed and developing countries, to which UNCTAD had contributed, he said.

"UNCTAD can be of immense assistance to countries in seizing the opportunity for promoting international economic cooperation and development," he said.

New realities confronting the body included widespread reliance on market forces in economic policy, growing concern about the environment and stress on good government, he said.

Delegates to the meeting, which lasts until Feb. 25, are discussing development, trade and the slump in commodity mar-

kets, which has badly hit poor countries' export earnings.

But a key issue is the future shape of UNCTAD.

Western states say the group system, which often pits industrial against developing countries, is inflexible. They want the agency to become a body for analysis and debate, shedding most of its current role as a negotiating forum.

Mr. Dadzie said he believed UNCTAD should identify issues, analyse them and build consensus. On some questions, UNCTAD should remain a forum for negotiation.

On others, talks should take place elsewhere. Some of its subsidiary bodies could be abolished or merged, he said.

Developing nations are concerned that industrial countries' moves towards large trading blocs could increase protectionism.

Mr. Dadzie said regional blocs could generate growth and propel the world economy. But, if they disregarded the principles of the multilateral trading system, "they could create problems for non-participants and generate trade conflicts."

## Japanese plan faces obstacles with bureaucrats

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ruling party has unveiled long-awaited proposals to spur the nation's economy and prop up a sagging stock market, but key components of the plan appear unlikely to win the support of powerful bureaucrats.

The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), anxious to please its big business constituents before elections this summer, formally adopted proposals that ask for what amounts to a cut in the central bank's official discount rate as well as measures that would make the shares of Japanese companies more attractive.

While the financial authorities acknowledge the importance of halting the recent slide in the stock market, they do not appear willing to jeopardise economic stability by fanning inflation in the process — namely with a cut in interest rates.

Reflecting the opposition such a request is likely to arouse, the LDP couched its official request in central banker language — urging a "proper and flexible" monetary policy — but top party politicians say the wording is really a call for a cut in the discount rate.

The key discount rate was last lowered a half point to 4.5 per cent on Dec. 30 and some private analysts say another half point cut may be needed to ensure that the slowing economy picks up by summer.

Speaking before the LDP proposals were released, Finance

Minister Tsutomu Hata appeared far from supportive of further rate cuts.

"Various people with responsibility for the economy have been cautious about it (a rate cut)," Some people are worried about the level of returns on their savings, Mr. Hata said. "If we force a discount rate cut, it would have an adverse effect."

Mr. Hata, as well as Bank of Japan Governor Yasuhiro Mieno, have expressed fears that cutting interest rates now could increase inflationary pressures.

Asked at another news conference about the LDP plea for lower rates, Hiroshi Yasuda, Japan's vice finance minister, also appeared unlikely to budge, saying the ministry of finance is going to take medium-to longer-term measures to prop up stocks.

Indeed, the LDP's statutory plans to revive the Tokyo stock market could win wider support.

Mr. Hata told a news conference that the ministry of finance's (MOF) main objective is to rebuild investor confidence in the Tokyo stock market, and has recently appeared to support some of the specific measures being put forward by the LDP such as encouraging higher dividends.

The LDP's proposal asked for measures to help stock prices that include revising corporate dividend policy, studying legal changes to allow firms to buy their own shares and studying reform of securities taxes and reform of the futures market.

## Iran's non-oil exports double

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's non-oil exports more than doubled in the last nine months of 1991 and are on course to maintain that increase for the whole of the financial year, the Iranian News Agency IRNA has reported.

The agency, quoting Commerce Minister Abdolhossein Vahhaji, said exports rose 110 per cent to \$1.85 billion in the nine-months to Dec. 21.

Mr. Vahhaji said exports looked set to reach \$2.6 billion by the end of the Iranian year on March 20, double the previous year's figure, thanks to government export promotion policies.

## Iran sets up Caspian zone with 4 ex-Soviet republics

TEHRAN (R) — Iran announced Monday it had formed a Caspian Sea cooperation zone with four former Soviet republics — Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkmenistan.

Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told reporters that he had just held a meeting of heads of state and representatives from the four Caspian Sea neighbours.

"This organisation is unrelated to the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) and will act independently and internationally," he said. A charter for the new group would be drawn up later.

There had been little to indicate that a Caspian Sea pact was in the making. President Rafsanjani first mentioned it Sunday when welcoming Azeri President Ayaz Mutalibov and Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov at Tehran Airport.

Iran is currently holding the first summit of ECO, founded 27 years ago by Iran, Pakistan and Turkey and now being expanded to include at least three and possibly six former Soviet republics in central Asia and Transcaucasia.

"We supported President Rafsanjani's suggestion and all countries around the Caspian Sea will take part in this new organisation," Mr. Mutalibov told reporters.

Mr. Niyazov said he was pleased the new group had been established and said its activities would be important and useful.

Tehran radio said member states agreed to make Tehran the headquarters of the new organisation.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said President Rafsanjani had proposed cooperation in various fields, including the use of marine resources in the Caspian Sea.

ECO members were due to close their two-day summit by signing a preferential tariff agreement and admitting new members. Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were certain to join.

## Financial difficulties hit Harvard

CAMBRIDGE (AP) — Harvard University, which has the largest endowment of any university in the world, finished the 1991 fiscal year with a \$41.9 million deficit and is operating at a loss this year.

Deferred maintenance, greatly increased costs of employee benefits, and a lackluster performance of endowment investments produced financial problems, according to statements.

The deficit on last year's \$1.2 billion budget resulted almost entirely from a new and retroactive bookkeeping step of including the cost of deferred maintenance \$76.5 million a year — in the budget.

About 20 per cent of the university's total budget comes from income of the endowment, which totals \$4.6 billion.

The biggest financial problem this year is the current \$11.7 million deficit in the \$200 million budget for Harvard's undergraduate school, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

"Yes, we have some financial problems," Harvard President Neil Rudenstine said. "They are manageable. They can be dealt with in an orderly and timely way... but you're going to see some tightening, no question about it."

## U.S. study finds big bank mergers do not save costs

ATLANTA (R) — Big U.S. bank mergers in the mid-1980s apparently brought little or no cost savings for the institutions, according to a study by the Federal Reserve Bank (Fed) of Atlanta.

The Atlanta Federal Reserve, one of the U.S. central bank's 12 regional banks, conducted a nationwide study from 1982 to 1986 of banks with assets in excess of \$100 million that had merged. The study found that "non-interest expenses — the sum of salaries, premises and other expenses — as a per cent of total assets tended not to decrease in the new partnership."

And, non-interest expenses as a per cent of assets actually increased in the four years after a merger, compared with the rates in the two years before the deal.

Proponents of U.S. financial industry consolidation argue that mergers are needed to cut overhead and make American banks more competitive with their giant Japanese rivals.

Non-interest expenses rose most sharply in banks with assets over \$10 billion, the study said.

The study's data "also suggest that the acquiring banks were more efficient than the industry on average prior to their mergers but were no more efficient than the industry after the merger," the Atlanta Fed said.

The study cautioned that the increases in expense ratios may have been caused by unrelated industry trends and by changes in the product mixes after the merger.

Atlanta Fed economists said they found some evidence that bank mergers "may generate cost savings if the acquirer and target banks are operating in the same market."

## Russia hires Goldman Sachs to woo investors

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia said Monday it had signed a U.S. investment bank Goldman Sachs as financial adviser to help attract foreign capital to kick-start the moribund economy.

"We want to create a new image of Russia for foreign investors," Deputy Finance Minister Leonid Grigoryev told a news conference in Moscow. "We want to attract serious Western business investment in Russia."

Goldman Sachs will advise foreign firms of the investment prospects, help them through the legal and bureaucratic jungle and advise the government on how to lure venture capital.

"We need teachers, in a sense, in practical things," he said. "We receive a lot of intellectual help in terms of legal acts, strategic concepts and so on from international agencies, but we need permanent financial advisers in practical terms."

"The risks here are obvious to an outside firm," Robert Rubin, co-chairman of the New York-based firm, told the news conference. "The opportunities may be less obvious but they are enormous."

Western firms have shown interest in investing in the former Soviet Union as its leaders strive to convert it from a communist to a private enterprise economy.

But the political confusion and such factors as the absence of legislation to protect foreign investors, lack of clarity over taxation and the non-convertibility of the rouble have depressed the amount of capital actually committed.

Meanwhile, consumer prices in Russia rose 300 to 350 per cent from December to January, far higher than predicted by the government of President Boris Yeltsin.

At the same time, the gross national product dropped by between 16 and 18 per cent from December to January, Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Shokhin and Deputy Finance Minister Andrei Nechaev told a news conference.

Russian government officials, in planning the price reforms that began on Jan. 2, forecast that the cost of food and other consumer goods would rise 250 per cent, Mr. Shokhin said.

Instead, prices rose by three to three and a half times, he said, placing the blame on producers and retailers who took advantage of scarcity to grab profits.

## FURNISHED APARTMENT IN SHMEISANI FOR RENT

Modern, three bedrooms in excellent and clean shape. New paint, new wall-to-wall carpet, excellent finishing. Located close to shopping and office areas west of the Professional Associations Complex. The apartment is ready for occupancy with full services: heat, running water, electricity, intercom and telephone. Other specifications include large living-dining room, two bedrooms, balcony, kitchen.  
Call: 562862

## VILLA FOR RENT

Consists of three bedrooms, American style living, sitting, and dining area, German-style spacious kitchen with telephone, 3 bathrooms, maid's room with its bathroom, garage for two cars and central heating.  
Location: Seventh Circle, near the Royal Automobile Club.  
Call tel.: 812165 (office) 811816 (home)

## APARTMENTS WANTED

A diplomatic mission is seeking one to four bedroom unfurnished apartments for its staff. The size of each type of apartment is specified below in net square metres.

The term net square metres means the sum of the square metres measured from wall to wall of the living room, dining room, bathrooms, bedrooms, kitchen, closets, and halls. Storage and utility rooms and stairs are excluded from the calculation.

Number of bedrooms	Net square metres
One	83 to 92
Two	119 to 132
Three	174 to 191
Four	232 to 224

The most desirable apartments will have modern kitchens and bathrooms, however, the mission is willing to consider apartments with older amenities.

The mission prefers apartments in the Abdoun, Sweifieh, Um Utheina, Al Rabieh, Um Summaq, or Jandaweeh areas or in the areas from Fourth to Eighth Circle but will consider other areas.

Offers must include the price asked, the number of bedrooms in the apartment, the net square footage, the address of the apartment, and the name, address and telephone number of the owner. Floor plans are desirable but not required.

The mission will deal only with owners. Offers should be sent to:

Housing Office  
P.O. Box 354  
Amman, Jordan

Jordan-Japan Friendship Association  
welcomes in Amman  
The Japanese Percussion Ensemble Jundo Renzan  
and the "RYU"  
Under the Patronage of Their Highnesses  
Prince Raad and Princess Majida  
The National Music Conservatory/Noor Al  
Hussein Foundation  
in a  
Gala production of drumming, singing and dancing  
Wednesday, February 19, 1992  
7:00 p.m.  
The Palace of Culture — Al Hussein Youth City

**FOR SALE OR RENT**  
Big mansion in the best area of Abdoun, 1,600m<sup>2</sup>/land, 1,200m<sup>2</sup> space, with first class finishing and furniture, good for embassy office space or ambassador's residence.  
Please call 687821/687822  
Mr. Khaled Saudi.

**CARS FOR SALE — DUTY UNPAID**  
1. Ford Taurus Station Wagon — fully loaded model 88 — Burgundy.  
2. Ford Thunderbird, model 87 black.  
Both cars are in excellent condition and to go for highest price.  
Tel. 691868

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We offer from India high grade  
REAL LEATHER JACKETS,  
SKIRTS, SHOE UPPERS,  
SYNTHETIC SHOES  
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FINISHED LEATHER  
Contact: Mr. B.S. SABNANI,  
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At the Buyer-Seller Meet of  
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Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144  
Eddie Murphy & Nick Nolte  
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**ANOTHER 48 HOURS**  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30  
Special shows for children on Thursdays  
and Fridays at 11:30 a.m.  
**SPIDER MAN**

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155  
Noor Al Sharif  
in  
**Naji Al Ali**  
Arabic  
Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420  
Kim Basinger  
**TOO HOT TO HANDLE**  
Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.  
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre  
Today and everyday  
**"ZAMAN AL SHAKLABAH"**  
(Sommersault Time) play  
Continues its shows  
starting: "Abu Awwad neighbourhood" family  
ticket office open daily



## Serb leaders in Croatia defy rebellion over U.N. plan

**BELGRADE (R)** — The leaders of Croatia's main Serb enclave vowed Monday to resist rebel parliamentarians trying to oust them for defying deployment of United Nations peacekeeping troops on their territory.

Milan Babic, president of the Krajina enclave, and his government sent an urgent letter to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali after rebels in the Serb-controlled region's parliament voted Sunday to replace them.

Mr. Babic accused the Republic of Serbia, his former staunch ally, of being behind moves to topple him because he is resisting the planned deployment of about 13,000 peacekeepers in Krajina and other Croatian hotspots.

"Excellency, we assure you that a large majority of delegates of Krajina's assembly and the people of Krajina support the policy of the government of President Babic," said the letter, which was also sent to news organizations.

"A group of Krajina's delegates was forced, or in some cases accepted voluntarily, to serve the political forces outside Krajina," Mr. Babic said only 39 of Krajina's 161 delegates had voted to replace him. His government in a statement accused the rebels of attempting to stage a coup d'etat.

Mr. Babic looked isolated nonetheless. Croatia and Serbia have accepted the U.N. plan, despite Croatia's reservations, and the Security Council is expected to approve the proposals later this week.

The reports, which were not

independently confirmed, pushed the death toll for last week to at least 13.

Serbian media carried no early reports of fighting Monday. Croatian media said 10 people were hurt in artillery fire around the Adriatic port of Zadar Sunday.

Many Yugoslavs say the U.N. plans is the last chance to end the conflict and fear it could spread to Bosnia-Herzegovina, a volatile

republic made up mainly of Serbs, Croats and Muslims. Macedonia, Yugoslavia's southern republic, wants to win international recognition as an independent state — already secured by Croatia and its neighbour Slovenia.

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## Baker, Yeltsin discuss nuclear arms cuts

**MOSCOW (Agencies)** — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker Monday presented Russian President Boris Yeltsin with proposals to help Russia dismantle short-range nuclear weapons and find work for its nuclear scientists.

At a Kremlin meeting, the two men also discussed the possibility of further cuts in their countries' long-range nuclear arsenals, according to Mr. Baker's aides. President George Bush last month proposed cutting to 4,700 warheads each. Mr. Yeltsin suggested 2,500.

The former Soviet Union is estimated to have between 10,000 and 12,000 long-range and 17,000 short-range warheads. The United States has 12,000 long-range and 9,000 short-range warheads. Short range missiles can reach targets up to 600 miles (1,000 kilometres) while long-range missiles can reach targets on another continent.

Mr. Bush did not rule out further cuts when he met with Mr. Yeltsin at the presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland, earlier this month. But deeper cuts would affect the U.S. submarine nuclear force in which the United States enjoys a distinct advantage.

U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, indicated Sunday that an agreement might be reached between Mr. Baker and Mr. Yeltsin on one or more of these subjects, although they did not elaborate.

On Friday, Mr. Baker met with 30 senior scientists at Chelyabinsk 70, a top secret city where nuclear weapons are designed. He pledged the United States would help them overcome hardships.

The United States, in consultation with Germany and with Mr. Yeltsin, is considering setting up an international clearinghouse in Russia that would use U.S., Russian and other experts to gather and review proposals for turning the nuclear scientists' military skills to civilian use.

The United States hopes that the dismantling of the former Soviet Union's tactical nuclear missile arsenal will employ many of the scientists who have lost their jobs. That could prevent them from being lured to hostile nations.

U.S. experts have already begun teaching some of the scientists techniques for dismantling the estimated 17,000 short-range nuclear weapons that Russia is gathering from all the former republics and collecting on its territory.

U.S. officials say the weapons will all be in Russia by July 1. They say the United States also is considering a plan to send special containers and secure rail cars to assist in safely transporting and storing the warheads.

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## Burmese troops line up on Bangladesh border

**DHAKA (R)** — Burma lined more troops and heavy artillery along its tense western frontier with Bangladesh, raising fears in Dhaka of a clash and a new flood of Burmese Muslim refugees, military sources said Monday.

Burma had brought an extra 10,000 troops to the area, raising the total to 85,000, an official of the Bangladesh Rifles in the border town of Teknaf said.

"They are still digging in," he said.

Chinese and Czechoslovak-made 105mm field guns trained on Bangladesh were also visible in Maungdo and Dussong areas, he quoted an intelligence report as saying.

"Their preparation is definitely warlike but we don't believe they will ever go for the real thing because they know that they will lose lock, stock and barrel," the official told Reuters by telephone.

Foreign Ministry officials in Dhaka said they had no confirmation of a fresh troop build-up but a relief official said the daily influx of refugees, called Rohingyas, had almost doubled in a week.

"Previously the rate was 1,500

a day, now it is 3,200," said Shamsur Ali.

Bangladesh has started receiving international aid for the Rohingyas and stepped up a campaign for more help from the West.

The Geneva-based United Nations High Commissioner for Relief Announced a token donation of \$100,000 to the 100,500 Rohingyas who have arrived in Bangladesh over the past weeks.

Most of them face starvation and disease in their makeshift straw and bamboo-made huts along the highway south of the resort town Cox's Bazar.

"There are already good responses from the West and the United Nations is already in the picture," an official said.

Foreign Minister A. S. Mostafizur Rahman, who is now in London as part of his eight-nation tour of Europe and the Middle East, said he would brief governments on the refugees.

"The world must understand that this is something beyond the means of Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries and victim of floods, cyclones and other natural hazards," he told Bangladesh journalists in London.

charges but banned from the British mainland.

In May, 1987, eight IRA gunmen were shot dead in the village of Loughgal when SAS commandos surprised them in an ambush. IRA activists acknowledge the SAS is their most feared opponent.

The IRA is battling to oust Britain from Northern Ireland. The Sunday night shoot-out provoked republican claims that Britain had adopted "a shoot-to-kill" policy toward nationalist guerrillas. But Protestant deputies praised the British security forces.

"The removal of these terrorists is long overdue. At least three of them are known to have inflicted serious suffering on the community," said unionist deputy Ken Maginnis.

But Francis Molloy of the IRA's political wing Sinn Féin said: "Maximum force was used when these men could have been arrested. This looks like another case of shoot to kill."

The killings brought the death toll in Northern Ireland to 30, the worst since 1976.

Britain sent in 600 extra troops last week to counter an upsurge in sectarian "tit-for-tat" killings and Prime Minister John Major called a special security summit in London with Protestant and Catholic political leaders from the province.

Last month, an IRA bomb killed eight Protestant construction workers near Coalisland. Protestant extremists retaliated by shooting dead five gamblers in a Belfast betting shop.

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## 7 Armenians killed in fresh Karabakh fighting

**MOSCOW (R)** — Fierce fighting between Azeris and Armenians has erupted over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, killing at least seven people, local news agencies reported Monday.

The Armenian News Agency Snark said the regional capital Stepanakert came under intensive bombardment Sunday from the Azeri stronghold of Shusha, about 10 kilometres south.

"Altogether some 300 missiles hit the city. Seven people were killed and 16 were wounded. Many buildings were badly damaged and there are still places in flames," it said.

The Azerbaijan agency Azerinform reported that more than 20 Azeri villagers had been killed and more than 15 wounded in recent fighting in the mountainous enclave, ruled by Azerbaijan since 1923 but populated mostly by Armenians.

More than 1,000 have been killed there in the past four years. The Azerinform report, carried by ITAR-TASS News Agency, said Armenian militants had captured the Azeri settlement of Karadag, forcing residents to hide in a nearby forest.

Armenia and Azerbaijan, both members of the Commonwealth of Independent States that replaced the Soviet Union last December, have frequently come close to all-out war over Karabakh and accuse each other of pogroms in the territory.

Azeri President Ayaz Mutalibov has accused the Armenians of systematically expelling Azeris from the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

"Their aim is to create a Nagorno-Karabakh without Azeris or any other nationalities, just as they have created a mono-national country in Armenia," Mr. Mutalibov told reporters Sunday night.

He said 15,000 Azeris had been forced from Nagorno-Karabakh. Twenty Azeri villages had been destroyed or evacuated since the past three months, he said.

"Azeris are only living in (the Karabakh town of) Shusha where we can only take them bread by helicopter — and the Armenians shoot down the helicopters," he said.

He said the second of two Azeri helicopters lost over the enclave since November had been shot down by a U.S.-made Stinger missile. The Armenians say the first helicopter crashed in fog and the second was carrying ammunition which exploded in mid-air.

He did not say how the Armenians had acquired the missile.

Mr. Mutalibov, in Tehran for a summit meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) founded by Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, said Azerbaijan welcomed the mediation of Iran or any other country interested in a peaceful solution for Nagorno-Karabakh. Fighting over the territory has killed more than 1,000 people since 1988.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### French far-right wins Nice election

**PARIS (R)** — The far-right National Front topped the first ballot of a local election in Nice, beating the ruling Socialists into a humiliating fourth place and knocking them out of the run-off next week. National Front candidate Jacques Peyrat took 37.4 per cent of the vote in the Riviera city, where only one third of the electorate bothered to vote. The vote was seen as a possible pointer to a trend in regional elections next month which could prove a debacle for President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party. It was the first election in Nice since former Mayor Jacques Medecin, living on the run from French justice in Uruguay, endorsed National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen. The mainstream conservative UDF and RPR parties each took 15.8 per cent of the vote, while the Socialists won just 12.1 per cent. The UDF, which polled just 42 more votes than the RPR, will face the National Front in the run-off next Sunday.

#### 37 troops killed in Filipino ambush

**MARIHATAG, Philippines (R)** — The Philippine army said Monday that suspected Communist rebels, believed led by a former priest, had killed 38 soldiers in an ambush after gouging out the eyes of some of them. Military spokesman Major Albert Mabasa said 21 soldiers were wounded and four officers were missing after the attack on a 100-strong patrol Sunday outside the town of Maribatag on the southern island of Mindanao. Mabasa said Communist rebels headed by ex-Roman Catholic priest Frank Navarro were suspected. He quoted survivors as saying some rebels gouged out the eyes of wounded troops before shooting them dead.

#### Miyazawa aide faces more charges

**TOKYO (R)** — Japanese prosecutors formally lodged new charges Monday against a close aide to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, already under indictment for taking bribes in exchange for political favours, NHK television reported. The public network said Fumio Abe was charged with receiving 10 million yen (\$80,000) from bankrupt developer Kyowa Company while serving as regional development minister. As is usual in Japan, the prosecutors refused to confirm or deny the report for the foreign press. The latest move in the so-called Kyowa scandal occurred as opposition parties boycotted the Diet (parliament) for the 13th day in an attempt to force full disclosure of the involvement of ruling party figures in illegal payoffs. Meanwhile, public attention was shifting to what promised to be an even bigger corruption scandal, the "Sagawa affair" linking big business, gangsters and politicians in which about 130 Diet members are alleged to have taken bribes.

#### Rights groups, China clash on Tibet

**PEKING (R)** — Human rights groups said Monday that China had imprisoned 360 Tibetans for political crimes since pro-independence riots in 1987, far more than China has officially admitted. Peking issued statements saying prison conditions in the remote Himalayan region were humane and good and that prisoners' rights were respected. The U.S. group Asia Watch, in a joint report with the London-based Tibet Information Network, cited new lists from three prisons in the Tibetan capital, Lhasa, as saying 360 political prisoners had been held since 1987. It said that 240 of them were still in custody as of September last year. China's official New China News Agency, in several reports issued last Sunday and early Monday, said rights of prisoners were respected in the Tibet autonomous regional prison, which it said was the only prison in Tibet. The human rights groups said the 360 detainees — only part of Tibet's political prisoner population — contrasted sharply with the Chinese government's total of 50 convictions for "counter-revolutionary activity" since 1987.

#### Writer George Macbeth dies

**LONDON (R)** — Scottish-born poet and broadcaster George Mann Macbeth has died from pneumonia at his home in Ireland, his family said. Mr. Macbeth, 60, wrote poems devoted to love and war. His collections include *The Colour Of Blood*, *Shrapnel* and *A War Quartet*. He worked at the British Broadcasting Corporation for 20 years beginning in the 1960s, producing literary and poetry programmes. He left the BBC in 1976 to spend more time writing. He wrote several novels and children's books and an autobiography, *A Child Of The War*.

#### Novelist Angela Carter dies

**LONDON (R)** — British novelist Angela Carter has died from cancer at her London home, her publishers said. Ms. Carter, 52, was married and had an eight-year-old son. Her novels included *The Magic Toyshop*, which won the John Llewellyn Rhys Literature Prize in 1967. Several Perceptions, awarded the 1968 Somerset Maugham Award, and *Nights Of The Circus*. Her latest novel, *Wise Children*, was published last year. Ms. Carter also wrote screen and radio plays, short stories — including one made into the 1984 film *The Company Of Wolves* — and children's books.

## Moldovan opposition seeks unity with Romania

**KISHINYOV, Moldova (R)** — Moldova's opposition Popular Front has elected former Prime Minister Mircea Druc as its new leader and mapped out a programme leading to union with neighbouring Romania.

"We must become a real force to achieve our ideal of reunification with our homeland, Romania," Mr. Druc said to the applause of 600 delegates at a congress of the Popular Front at Kishinyov's Opera House Sunday.

Mr. Druc, a founding member of the Popular Front, was elected to replace the movement's former president Iurie Rosca. His supporters packed the hall decorated with Romanian national flags.

Moldova, sandwiched between Romania and Ukraine, proclaimed independence from Moscow last August and joined the new Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) which emerged from the ashes of the Soviet Union two months ago.

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## COLUMN

### Japan gives Jagger satisfaction at last

**TOKYO (R)** — British rock singer Mick Jagger was finally allowed into Japan Monday after spending a day in an airport hotel because a 25-year-old drug conviction barred him from the country. The Justice Ministry gave the Rolling Stones lead singer special permission to visit for two weeks, describing it as "an exceptional case." Jagger, 48, was halted on arrival at Tokyo's Narita Airport Sunday night because he had once been convicted on a drug charge. He was briefly jailed in Britain in 1967 for possessing cannabis. He was allowed into the country in 1988 for some solo concerts and then in 1990 to perform with the Stones but only after the Justice Ministry granted him special approval after seeking diplomatic advice from the Foreign Ministry. This time, according to the Justice Ministry, Jagger had failed to make the special application for admittance required of anyone previously blacklisted. Shortly after the ministry's announcement Jagger was headed by car for Tokyo, two hours away.

### Wealthy builder becomes penniless ascetic

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — A wealthy building contractor plucked out the hair off his head, discarded his clothes and renounced his money to become a homeless ascetic. Fulfilling a 2,500-year-old tradition of the Jain religion, Sulekh Chand Jain vowed to live a contemplative life, eat no more food per day than can fit in the palm of his hand, and leave his wife and five children forever. United News of India reported. "Every day I told lies to get rich. And then came a point when I realised that I had done everything possible for myself in this life — but nothing for the next," he said. Mr. Jain, 60, abandoned his worldly goods before 10,000 witnesses at the climax of a two-day ceremony that began with a ride through the street in a horse-drawn chariot, the news agency said. Wearing a turban and fine clothes, Mr. Jain was preceded in the procession by elephants, camels and a marching band. Mr. Jain bequeathed his wealth to his family. Others who underwent similar religious awakenings gave their assets to charity or threw away their money and jewels in the street.

### Police poised for raid on sex camp in Philippines

**DIPOLOG, Philippines (R)** — Police have taken into custody two women who escaped from a gang that kidnaps young women for sex slavery in the southern Philippines, police said Sunday. Dipolog Police Chief Aquilino Garate said his men were coordinating with higher authorities on a planned raid of the bandits' hideout in the hinterlands of Madamba town, Lanao Del Sur Province, 820 kilometres south of Manila.

### Mother Teresa's nuns welcome Princess Diana

**CALCUTTA, India (R)** — Mother Teresa's nuns welcomed Britain's Princess Diana into some of the world's poorest slums Saturday despite worries about the health of the 81-year-old missionary. Mother Teresa